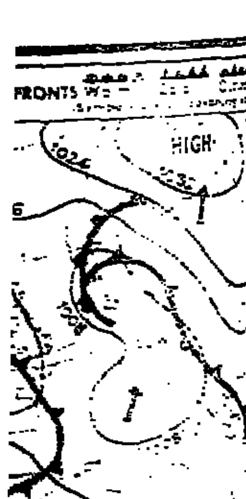
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THE TIMES

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THE TIMES

Tomorrow

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Rebecca West's son explains why his mother hated him

Trap two
Sarah Hogg finds out what the Budget has done for families in two poverty traps

Summit amiss
David Watt doubts the point of summit razzmatazz

Far flung
Prince Andrew visits St Helena for the 150th anniversary of the island's association with Britain

Mitterrand stands by steel cuts

As a general strike paralysed the steel region of Lorraine, President Mitterrand said his Government would not go back on plans to restructure the French steel industry. But he said there would be no compulsory redundancies among the 21.000 to 27.000 workers whose jobs will go **Page 6**

Norwegian gas deal defended

Sir Dennis Rooke, chairman of British Gas, has defended his decision to negotiate a £20bn contract for the supply of Norwegian gas to Britain in the 1990s. **Page 2**

Hindus protest

Nearly 200 people were arrested in Delhi yesterday as Hindus staged a one-day general strike in protest at Sikh extremism in Punjab **Page 6**

Space six

The three new Soviet spacemen, including the Indian, linked up with the orbiting Salyut whose crew of three welcomed them **Page 5**

Farm support



Mr Norman Tebbit (left) gave public support yesterday to Mr Michael Jopling (right) and the EEC farm deal which has angered farmers and some Tory MPs **Page 2**

Vietnam clash

China said several dozen Vietnamese soldiers had been killed or wounded when Chinese forces retaliated with artillery fire against what Peking called Vietnamese intrusions along its southern border **Earlier report, page 8**

Heart swop

A man aged 49 has received the heart of the victim of a road accident, aged 16: the kidneys were given to two other patients **Page 3**

Polling dates

Writs to hold by-elections in Stafford, Surrey, South-West and Cynon Valley, on May 3 were moved by government whips yesterday **Page 2**

Jobcentres to shut in high streets at saving of £12m

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Plans for a radical overhaul of services for the unemployed with the transfer of Jobcentres from expensive high street locations to areas inside supermarkets, building societies, banks and post offices were disclosed last night.

The proposals, which have been designed to head off criticism from the right wing of the Conservative Party that the employment service was wasteful, will produce annual savings of £12m, but drew protests from the trade unions.

Plans to reduce the network of main Jobcentres from under 1,000 to about 350 with the loss of 1,400 Civil Service jobs were described by union leaders as further evidence that the Government was "copping out" of a public employment service.

Mr Alistair Graham, general secretary of the Civil and Public Services Association said the three TUC members of the Manpower Services Commission, which will examine the proposals later this month, ought now to consider whether to resign from the commission. "It is devastating because the Government are destroying the public employment service," he said.

Mr Bryan Emmett, chief executive of the MSC's employment division said that the plans involve a "modest" increase in the level of service offered to the unemployed, but admitted in a letter to the 8,500 Jobcentres staff that the service could be "particularly vulnerable" to privatization.

His letter said that any plan had "to take account of the Government's concern for cost-effectiveness otherwise it would have little chance of lasting acceptance. We would be left with no plan and would be the more vulnerable to a succession of cuts year after year, but with no positive development of our role or capability. This I believe, would be a sure road to decline."

Under the proposals, which will be debated by the nine members of the commission on April 26, the new service would be split into four areas. There would be 350 main Jobcentres, 350 self-service "job shops" and up to 500 small "job points", with almost all of the latter relocated to supermarkets and post offices.

A report produced two years ago by Sir Derek Rayner, who was then advising the Prime Minister on cutting waste in government, suggested that the Jobcentre network was inefficient and using expensive prime high street sites. One result of the proposed overhaul could be that those seeking jobs would be directed to less expensive first floor offices.

The Jobcentres process 2.2 million vacancies a year, about a third of those available. They place 1.7 million people a year which accounts for about a quarter of all job vacancies filled nationally. Most of the job market is handled by private employment agencies.

Some of the main cuts in the network are likely to fall in the big urban areas such as Manchester, the Nortwest and Strathclyde, but the MSC argued last night that the move away from big Jobcentres would make the service more efficient.

The new outlets will all be called Jobcentres, but it is likely that the job points will use new technology and computer systems to advise job seekers of vacancies. There are also plans to use videos to inform people about the wider role played by Jobcentres in further education and training programmes.

Mr Emmett said that the job cuts entailed a reduction of 4 per cent in each of the next four years, compared with the present 7 per cent average turnover, but he refused to rule out the possibility of redundancies.

He told staff in the letter: "I fully understand disappointment at further staff reductions, but I honestly believe that our service will have a more secure future within the MSC if we show our readiness to accept justifiable economics while seeking to develop in new ways our important role in the labour, training and employment market".

The revamped network will start being introduced in October, assuming there is agreement by the nine MSC commissioners and ministerial approval.

Mr Tony Benn at Greenham Common yesterday, looking at land reclaimed by the Department of Transport. (Photograph: Chris Harris).

Women return to Greenham camps after police eviction

By Pat Healy

Nearly 100 women returned to peace camps outside six of the gates to Greenham Common air base in Berkshire last night, despite a huge operation by the police and bailiffs to clear them. Many were in survival bags but some new tents had already been erected.

Thirty women were arrested yesterday morning during the eviction of the camp outside the main gate to the base, one for a breach of the peace and the rest for obstruction.

After they had cleared that camp, bailiffs supported by the police returned in the afternoon to evict women from each of the five other camps surrounding the base.

The police later extinguished camp fires round which the women were gathered, discussing how they would reestablish themselves. Some women sought shelter in a church near by.

One said: "These evictions make no difference. We are here to stay until they remove the cruise missiles. The issue is what goes on inside the base, not the evictions."

An eviction operation began at 6am yesterday when the police sealed off the A339 Newbury to Basingstoke road which passes by the main gate to the base, where the original women's peace camp was established in September, 1981.

More than 50 women had stayed overnight at the camp and some began packing their belongings into cars and vans when they realized that the normally heavy traffic flow had stopped.

Others were wakened from their "benders" – plastic sheeting draped over tree branches – by the sound of running feet as more than 300 police surrounded the main camp.

The police arrived in 32 Transit vans following a white Rover saloon carrying Mr Wyn Jones, Assistant Chief Constable of Thames Valley Police, who supervised the operation.

Behind the police vans was a convoy of breakdown lorries and vans carrying bailiffs and workmen equipped to start construction of a road-widening scheme at the main gate.

At 6.45am Supt Alan Englefield warned the women through a loudhailer that they would be arrested if they tried to disrupt or obstruct the evictions. They were then given five minutes to take down their

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Hailsham to raise total of judges

By Richard Evans

The number of full-time circuit judges in England and Wales is to be increased by up to 10 per cent Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, announced last night.

The 348 full-time members of the criminal bench have had to deal with a 45 per cent increase in cases between 1979 and 1983, he told the Commons Select Committee on Home Affairs.

The Lord Chancellor's decision has also been prompted by the delays faced by those awaiting trial, especially in London. Many are in custody.

In London last year, the average gap between committal and trial was 24 weeks. For people in custody it was 16 weeks.

Lord Hailsham said: "I am going to make a serious trawl through the profession and see if I can find circuit judges whom I can safely appoint because one thing I have set my face against is to reduce quality. I do not want to appoint permanent judges who are not up to snuff.

"It would be the easiest thing in the world because there are more applicants than vacancies.

"I can honestly say the average circuit judge is a very much more respectable, likeable and knowledgeable and professional character than when I came to the bar in 1932. I can remember some absolute terrors then."

The Lord Chancellor said that judges in the provinces would continue to be drafted into London to reduce pressure on the system. But he rejected the idea of adopting te Scottish system where an accused person has to be released if not tried within a statutory time limit.

That would be counterproductive and could lead to some "big fish" escaping.

He said he was much more in favour of the existing system, whereby judges exerted pressure on the prosecution and defence to speeding up cases. Since 1979 there had been a 14 per cent increase in court sitting days and more cases were dealt with a day.

Lord Hailsham said trial delays in London had been reduced by 21 per cent since 1979. He supported abolition of a right to Crown Court trial for petty theft.

Left suspect plot as pit debate is delayed

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

The Speaker of the House of Commons, Mr Bernard Weatherill, will come under heavy pressure from angry Labour MPs today to allow an emergency debate on the miners' dispute and the associated police action.

Left-wing Labour MPs from Yorkshire and other mining areas have already been roused by what they regard as a conspiracy between the Government and Opposition front benches to prevent the debate – for different reasons both the Government and the Labour leadership wish to postpone it.

The frustration will be increased today when they learn that no time for debating the dispute is to be provided in the parliamentary programme before the end of the month.

This is because Mr Neil Kinnock, the Opposition leader, and his Shadow Cabinet have not asked for one of their allotted days, and ministers have no wish to make Government time available.

The reason is that neither side can be certain that any debate would be confined to favourable ground.

Labour would wish to debate police tactics but fear that the Conservatives would focus on the divisions within the National Union of Mineworkers. The Government fears that a debate could unite the miners and so prolong the dispute.

The Labour left will, therefore, look to the Speaker to enforce their rights and the role of Parliament, by allowing the emergency debate under Standing Order 10, which he has refused on three successive days this week.

The left's suspicion that there is a conspiracy to gag Parliament was increased last night when they heard that both the Government and the Opposition urged the Speaker to resist yesterday's application for a debate, made by Mr Allen McKay, MP for Barnsley West and Penistone.

Some Labour MPs were surprised when Mr Weetherill disallowed Mr McKay's application, after giving a strong hint on Tuesday that he remained open to persuasion. Mr Dennis Skinner, MP for Bolsover, asked him if they were "just being strung along".

Back benchers in general, however great confidence in Mr Weatherill as the servant of the House, who will give any suggestions from front benchers the weight they deserve and no more.

They expect his to allow a debate before the House rises for Easter tomorrow week, and to make up his mind for himself about the most appropriate time.

Meanwhile, both Conservative and Labour spokesmen were taking up positions for the argument about the coal indus-

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Hess fails in plea for freedom

From Michael Binyon Bonn

A fourth attempt by Rudolf Hess, Hitler's deputy, to appeal to West Germany's highest court against his continued imprisonment in Spandau has failed. The Constitutional Court, in Karlsruhe rejected his appeal last month, it was learnt yesterday, on the grounds that it had no prospect of success.

Herr Hess, who will be 90 on April 26, has been been in prison since 1941. He was sentenced at the Nursemberg war crimes tribunal in 1946 to life imprisonment, and all attempts to free him have run up against the insistence of the Soviet Union on interpreting that sentence literally.

He is detained, not under German law, but under four-power Allied regulations.



Rudolf Hess: In prison since 1941.

Queen to study bloodstock on private US visit

By Alan Hamilton

The Queen is to make a week-long private visit to the United States in October to study one of her consuming personal interests, bloodstock. She will be the guest of Lady Porchester, the American-born wife of her racing manager, Lord Porchester.

The Queen, who will be travelling without the Duke of Edinburgh at the end of her traditional Balmoral summer holiday, will not undertake any official engagements and is not expected to meet President Reagan, an occasion which might cause unnecessary embarrassment at the height of the presidential election. The President has, however, been informed of her visit.

The Queen will first visit stud farms at Lexington, Kentucky, the Newmarket of American racing, where some of her own mares will be in attendance to be covered by American stallions.

Later she will travel to Lady Porchester's family home at Sheridan, Wyoming, and will meet Lady Porchester's brother, Senator Malcolm Wallop, a Republican senator for the north-western state. Such private visits are rare; the last one the Queen made was in 1967, when she visited stud farms in Normandy.

The Queen has chosen October because it is regarded as the ideal period in the horse-breeding season. Despite Buckingham Palace insistence that the visit is a purely private one, American interest in the Queen, after her highly successful State visit last year, is intense, and the Palace has agreed to admit press and television cameras on two occasions as she tours the stud farms.

Mondale faces fight all the way

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Despite Mr Walter Mondale's impressive primary victory in New York, it still looks as though the race for the Democratic nomination will go all the way to the party's national convention in San Francisco in July.

Unless there is a sudden collapse in support for his main rival, Senator Gary Hart – which would seem unlikely, but cannot be ruled out – it is almost impossible for Mr Mondale to win the 1,967 delegates he needs to secure the nomination before the convention is held.

[The result of the New York primary was: Mr Mondale: 605,080 (45 per cent); Senator Gary Hart: 368,767 (27 per cent); the Rev Jesse Jackson: 343,687 (26 per cent).]

At present Mr Mondale has 864 delegates, which means he must win another 1,103 by June 12, when North Dakota holds the last primary on the election campaign calendar. Even if Mr Mondale fares as well in all of the coming races as he did in New York, he would still be several hundred delegates short of 1,967.

Apart from next Tuesday's primary in Pennsylvania and the New Jersey primary on June 5, most of the coming contests are in areas where Senator Hart should do well. A majority of them are in the west or south.

They include big tests in the Texas caucuses (200 delegates) on May 5 and the California primary (345 delegates) on June 5.

Contined on back page, col 2

BBC staff call one-day TV strike

BBC television programmes face severe disruption today as a result of the first all-out technicians' strike in London in 14 years (David Hewson writes).

The 24-hour stoppage by members of the Entertainment Trades Alliance is likely to cripple or black out editions of *Breakfast Time*, *Sixty Minutes*, *Question Time* and *Newsnight*.

Union officials are prepared to continue industrial action if a dispute over a reorganization of the scenery department, involving 160 redundancies, is not resolved.

The BBC believes that it should be able to maintain a minimum service using repeats and stock film if it cannot broadcast planned programmes

The scenery workers' strike has already cancelled or postponed more than 40 productions.

Chernenko sees need for détente

From Richard Owen Moscow

Mr Konstantin Chernenko, the Soviet leader, yesterday said there was a "real tendency for reactivating the process of détente" and an "acute need to restore international trust", but added that effective and urgent measures were needed.

Mr Chernenko, who became party leader in February, was responding to an appeal from Herr Willy Brandt, the former West German Chancellor, and other leading figures in the Socialist International. Mr Chernenko said arms control talks had been "deliberately disorganized" – a reference to the breakdown in Geneva, which Moscow blames on the United States, although it was Russia which withdrew.

The Soviet leader agreed with the Socialist International that dialogue with America was necessary, provided it was "honest, businesslike and aimed at working out agreements which meet the principle of equality and equal security."

There has been speculation about Mr Chernenko's declared commitment to détente. In the two month of his rule it has been combined with repeated hardline attacks on the US policies around the globe. He is to make his stand clearer next week at meetings of the Central Committee and Supreme Soviet.

Yesterday, he said agreement on a nuclear freeze and bans on chemical weapons and the militarization of space could be the beginning of a "veritable breakthrough" in international affairs and Soviet-American relations.

Mr Chernenko said Russia had put forward a range of arms proposals to which America had responded only with talk of its desire for peace.

Perfect murder warning to MPs

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The chances of committing the perfect murder might be increased by an obscure piece of private legislation to be debated by the House of Commons tonight, Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, has warned MPs.

The Ginns and Gutteridge, Leicester (Crematorium) Bill is not the first Bill to be submitted to Parliament as a result of Section 5 of the Cremation Act, 1902, which requires any crematorium to be operated within 50 yards of a road or within 200 yards of people's homes.

But the Home Secretary has pointed out that the Bill has one peculiar feature.

He has reported: "Since the Cremation Regulations were first introduced in 1903, no crematorium had been under the same management as a firm of funeral directors, as part of a single business."

Ginns and Gutteridge, funeral directors, of Vaughan Way, Leicester, wants to go into cremation, on the same premises, to cut the cost of death. Mr Brittan, however, says that there is a "point of public policy" in dividing certification procedures between a funeral director and crematorium operator.

He reports there is a possibility, to put it no higher, that if these duties are combined, the safeguards built into the cremation procedures to prevent the premature disposal of a body for the purpose of concealing crime may be lessened.

"This is particularly true where the funeral directors managing the crematorium are under pressure to cremate within 24 hours of death."

But the Home office is not the only one to have expressed disquiet, Leicester City Council believes that the Ginns and Gutteridge proposal will be 'Environmentally harmful" and may take revenue away from the municipal crematorium.

The Federation of British Cremation Authorities argues that the development "would tend to bring the practice of cremation into disrepute" and might result in "a proliferation of smaller crematoria", without expensive buildings and grounds, which would pose a commercial threat.

The Ginns and Gutteridge director who is handling the legislation was not available for comment yesterday.

Mr Roger Moates, Conservative MP for Faversham, who led the committee scrutiny of the Bill, reported last December: "Never can the subjects of crematoria and cremation have been so exhaustively considered in Parliament since the practice was first introduced into this country in the last century".

Because of the opposition, and because the Bill has been allotted only three hours of Commons time for report stage, it is unlikely that it will make progress tonight. The issue is therefore likely to be the subject of even more prolonged debate in the coming months.

Ministers move to support Jopling over farm deal

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

A government operation to mobilize support for the embattled Michael Jopling, Minister of Agriculture, whose assent to the European Community price-fixing agreement was received with outrage by the farming community and hostility by many Conservative MPs, began last night.

Mr Jopling, who in agreeing to a deal to restrict EEC milk production was carrying out the wishes of the Prime Minister to overhaul Community spending, was given full backing by Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, who said that the nervousness of farmers was misplaced and that the real threat to their interests would have come from failure to reform the common agriculture policy (CAP).

If the monster of the CAP had been allowed to continue unrestrained for a few more years new ways of raising money with which to feed it would have had to be found and all of them would have been more unpopular with the farmers than the present proposals, Mr Tebbit said.

Mr Tebbit's support, given in a speech to the Bow Group, undoubtedly marked Mrs Margaret Thatcher's approval for the deal Mr Jopling brought home from Brussels and her acceptance that a short-term price will have to be paid for the achievement of a long-term reform of the Community finances.

The government view is that the agricultural agreement can only have improved the prospects of success when the negotiations, stalled last month in Brussels, resume between member states.

Not all Cabinet members, however, are so supportive. Some senior ministers believe that it would have been much easier to defend the agreement if Mr Jopling had put on record his disagreement with the preferential treatment given to the Irish Republic in milk production and forced the agricultural council of ministers to take its decision by qualified majority. They respect his view, though, that such a move would have been "non-communitaire".

Mr Tebbit said the incessant and huge increases in CAP subsidies were threatening the whole system with collapse. "And if it were to collapse there would be no greater sufferer than the farmer."

Saying that Mr Jopling was a first-class minister of agriculture and that the Government had an excellent record as a firm friend of the farmer, Mr Tebbit said that there had to be a change in the CAP and the weekend's agreement was the first clear sign of it.

Mr Tebbit said: "For the first time a move was made to control the piling up of unwanted foodstocks and the huge increase in the cost of the CAP.

"Painful as it is to farmers, no one can deny that this was in the clear best interests of the British taxpayer and housewife who, for the first time, might see food prices actually falling slightly."

Mr Tebbit said that British farmers were the most efficient and productive in Europe.

Hume will not back Gillick over Pill action

By Clifford Longley and Nicholas Timmins

Cardinal Basil Hume, Archbishop of Westminster, has told Mrs Victoria Gillock that he cannot support her court action to establish the right of parents to be consulted before under-aged girls are prescribed contraceptives, including the pill.

The Cardinal's decision will be welcomed by the British Medical Association, which strongly opposed Mrs Gillick's action and had been feeling increasingly isolated as her campaign gathered pace.

Mrs Gillick, a Roman Catholic from Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, had asked the Cardinal for backing. Her action is likely to come before the Court of Appeal in the next few weeks. He has asked the Department of Social Responsibility of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales to prepare a definitive statement on the issues raised.

The indications yesterday were that the statement will uphold the importance of the confidential relationship between doctors and their patients even when the patient concerned is under 16, and will point to the difficulty of drawing a line at 16. Rates of emotional development vary, it is expected to point out.

It is also likely to question the desirability of attempting to enforce a church's moral teaching by court action in a pluralistic society, and to suggest that there may be circumstances in which it would be a bad principle to insist that parents have an absolute right to veto the treatment a child may need.

But those points are not elaborated in a letter from the cardinal to Mrs Gillick, which states that "the particular issue which you have brought before the courts has, however, as many have recognized, wider implications for the role of law, medical practice, and social welfare in a pluralistic society".

He expresses his approval of her desire to uphold moral standards in general, and expresses his own concern about developments which undermine values necessary to stable family life.

Few Conservative MPs have publicly supported the BMA's attitude, some doctors have threatened to resign from it, and Mrs Margaret Thatcher has let her support of Mrs Gillick be known.

Many Conservative MPs expect her to find time for a parliamentary debate to force a change in the Department of Health and Social Security's guidance on the issue after the Court of Appeal hearing.



Commission for equality: Women's Royal Army Corps Cadets marching alongside male officer cadets yesterday in a rehearsal for tomorrow's Sovereign's Parade at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, when they will receive commissions together for the first time (Photograph: Bill Warhurst).

Plans to save 'power cathedral' go on show

By Hugh Clayton

Battersea power station, one of the most prominent landmarks on the south bank of the Thames in London, may be demolished unless a use is found for it in a competition now under way. The station's 48 years of work as a "cathedral of power" ended six months ago, and it now stands a half-empty shell next to the main line into Victoria Station.

The Central Electricity Generating Board made clear yesterday that the station's only chance of survival was through redevelopment for recreational purposes unconnected with the generation of electricity.

The building with its four 337ft chimneys cannot be demolished because it is officially listed as a Grade Two historic structure. "We were not consulted on the listing", Mr Geoffrey Stone, director-general of the board's south-east region, said yesterday. "We would have been happier if it had not been listed."

He was speaking before the opening in Battersea of a public exhibition of seven redevelopment schemes accepted for a competition run for the board by Taylor Woodrow Construction. The company is not competing.

All entries are anonymous, but have been submitted by teams of architects, developers, engineers, and planners. The board said that ideas from local people had been "fed in" to the entrants. The winner will be allowed to buy the redundant station for at least £1.5m.

Judging will be done by a panel chaired by Lord Ezra, former chairman of the National Coal Board.

The competition has the ingredients that have prolonged and embittered planning proceedings over other large developments by the river in London, including Coin Street and Vauxhall Cross.

"If there is a nil result from this competition it will have been reasonably demonstrated that there is no commercially viable use for this building." The board would then apply for it to be taken off the official historic buildings list. It would then sell the 15 acre site on the understanding that the buyer could demolish the station.

One of the entrants in the competition proposes using the station for a theatre with "a stage complex fit to accommodate a Busby Berkeley – scale show". Another says it needs more than 200 luxury flats to survive commercially, while another wants to fill it with "some of the most advanced leisure technology in the world".

Gas chief defends deal with Norway

Sir Dennis Rooke, chairman of the British Gas Corporation, has launched a robust defence of his decision to negotiate a £20bn contract to buy gas from Norway in the 1990s.

The Treasury is opposed to the deal on the ground of damage to the balance of payments. The Department of Energy is opposed because it wants to see full development of the British sector of the North Sea.

Unless the Government intervenes, British Gas will sign a deal before the end of this year with Statoil, the Norwegian state oil company which is to develop the Sleipner gas field.

British Gas is already angry with the Government for ordering it to sell its on-shore oil field in Dorset and for stripping it of its North Sea oil assets, which have been transformed to a new company, Enterprise Oil, to be floated on the Stock Market this year.

Sir Dennis told a meeting of the International Gas Council in London yesterday that gas was no longer the Cinderella of the fuel industries.

"Given the contribution that the gas industry is now making to the economic welfare of the nation, we should not be too surprised that governments are taking an ever-increasing interest in our affairs."

He has already tried to head off British oil companies' criticism of the Norwegian deal by saying that British Gas will buy all economically recoverable gas from the British North Sea sector "provided the price is right".

British Gas says that even with the prospect of new gas coming from the British sector supplies from Norway will inevitably be needed in the 1990s.

Sir Dennis said yesterday: "I believe the price we have negotiated for Sleipner represents a good deal. The deal will provide gas to customers at a price which is competitive with other fuels."

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Vauxhall to get £100m investment

By Clifford Webb

Mr Roger Smith, chairman of General Motors Corporation, yesterday announced a £100m investment programme to increase Vauxhall car production.

It is the company's biggest single investment in Britain and, together with expansion schemes recently announced means that the American group will be spending more than £220m here in the next two years.

Mr Smith gave the news at a London press conference shortly before a meeting with Mr Norman Tebbit at which the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry was expected to express the Government's increasing concern at the many cars General Motors is importing from its German and Spanish plants.

Sproat 'on Stafford short list'

Mr Iain Sproat, the former Conservative minister who was defeated at Roxborough and Berwickshire at the general election after leaving Aberdeen South, is understood to have been shortlisted to fight the Stafford by-election.

Mr Sproat, aged 45, former Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Trade, it is understood, is joined on the shortlist by Mrs Elizabeth Cottrell, aged 43, who fought Ipswich at the last election. The adoption meeting will take place tonight.

Government whips yesterday moved the writs for polling to take place on May 3 in Stafford and Surrey, Sout-west, also Conservative held.

The Surrey candidate will be chosen from on Tuesday. The Liberals are expected to chose one for the Alliance tomorrow.

Met police's top woman



Chief Supt Jennifer Hilton (right), who is set to become the highest ranking officer in the Metropolitan Police, working in her office at Scotland Yard yesterday. Miss Hilton, aged 48, has been selected for promotion to commander.

She works in the traffic department and has served with the Metropolitan force for 27 years. Only one woman will outrank her in England and Wales, Miss Alison Halford, assistant chief constable with Merseyside Police.

RCs review Jesus TV series

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

A Committee of Roman Catholic theologians met at the request of Cardinal Basil Hume, Archbishop of Westminster, yesterday to consider the proposed Channel 4 television series, *Jesus: the Evidence*, after complaints that it was offensive.

They are expected today to make a statement similar to yesterday's Methodist Church statement supporting the showing of the series while questioning its approach.

Neither the Methodists nor the Roman Catholics have disapproved of the passage said to suggest the Jesus was homosexual.

Some evangelical groups have already protested about that passage to the Independent Broadcasting Authority.

The three-part programme, made by London Weekend Television, will be followed by a discussion. The main emphasis is on unorthodox interpretations of Jesus.

The Rev David Bridge, a Methodist who is also Free Church religious adviser to London Weekend, said the series concentrated on "eccentric scholars" and neglected the leading authorities, who took an orthodox position.

Tight security for royal visit

Tight security surrounded the Duke and Duchess of Kent yesterday during a 24-hour visit to Northern Ireland.

While the Duke visited a lifeboat station at Donaghadee, co Down, and then toured military bases, the Duchess went to an electronics factory in Coleraine before lunching at the Northern Ireland Hotel and Catering College in Portrush, co Antrim. In the afternoon she opened a flats complex.

O'Toole returns

Peter O'Toole is to return to the West End stage next month as Professor Higgins in a new production of Shaw's *Pygmalion* at the Shaftesbury Theatre. The first preview is on May 10.

Thatcher 'was right to clout Whitehall'

From Peter Hennessy, Southampton

Mrs Margaret Thatcher was right to "clout" the Civil Service. It had "got above its station", the annual conference of the Political Studies Association at Southampton was told yesterday by Dr Geoffrey Fry, senior lecturer in politics at Leeds University.

Dr Fry said: "That the Thatcher Government saw the higher Civil Service as a potential opponent was not as unreasonable a position as some observers chose to portray it".

In attempting to steer ministers towards the "common ground" of Keynsianism, senior civil servants were not engaged in a politically neutral activity. The common ground had shifted towards Conservatism and "sound money", as election results demonstrated.

Dr Fry was sceptical about the success of the Government's financial management initiative in changing Whitehall culture. "The Civil Service has little choice about wearing the currently fashionable clothes, but much the same bodies remain underneath", he said.

General support for Mrs Thatcher's efficiency strategy was expressed by Mr Spencer Zifcak, a senior Australian civil servant on secondment to the London School of Economics.

But he added: "How long the Government can continue to belittle the public sector by comparison to the private sector and at the same time expect both efficiency and morale to improve is a matter of conjecture".



Mrs Harris celebrating her success.

Wine woman on song

Mrs Claudia Harris, aged 40, from Devon, has achieved one of the wine profession's highest accolades and became the first female master sommelier.

Owner of the Moorwood restaurant near Luftleigh, on Dartmoor, she passed the Master Sommelier's Diploma examination at the Imperial Hotel, Torquay to join 40 successful candidates out of the 200 who have taken the examination over the past 15 years.

Mrs Harris, who was *sommelier of the year in 1981*, has run the restaurant with her husbsnd Michael for the past 13 years. She stocks 50 wines all in the middle price range. "I like to explore wines from the lesser known regions", sge said.

Dinner ladies take pay issue to court

By Michael Horsnell

Nearly 10,000 school dinner ladies who are threatened with dismissal or a pay cut of up to 25 per cent challenged the rights of three education authorities to end their contracts when a High Court judicial review opened yesterday.

The hearing is being fought on their behalf by the National Union of Public Employees (Nupe) in a case at Chelmsford Crown Court expected to last at least a week.

The dinner ladies are from Birmingham, Hertfordshire, and East Sussex. Their colleagues from other Conservative-controlled authorities may also be affected. Several authorities, keen to cut their school meals budget, are treating the hearing as a test case.

Nupe claims that the local authorities are altering the terms of the national agreement drawn up by the National Joint-Council for Local Authority Services.

Yesterday the union was to have sought an injunction restraining Hertfordshire County Council from implementing its plan to reduce the pay of 2,500 women by up to 17 per cent.

But Mr John McDonald, QC, for Nupe, told the hearing that an April 6 deadline set by the authority for staff to accept new conditions had been withdrawn and an extension agreed.

A judicial review of Hertfordshire's actions will follow the review, which started yesterday, of Birmingham City Council's plan to impose inferior conditions on more than 5,000 women. The review, by Mr Justice Mann, will deal next week with the actions of the third authority involved, East Sussex.

Saleroom

High-priced Old Masters fail to find buyers

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Sotheby's expected two big prices in yesterday's sale of Old Master paintings but neither picture found a buyer.

A "Virgin and Child with Saints Dorothy and Ursula" was catalogued as by Vittore Carpaccio but was left unsold at £180,000 (unpublished estimate £300,000 to £400,000).

Carpaccio is one of the great Renaissance painters of Venice and any painting unquestionably from his hand would be a rarity.

While Sotheby's had written opinions from four Italian art historians attesting to Carpaccio's authorship, the trade appears to have voted it a dull picture, more likely to have been by an artist in Carpaccio's circle than Carpaccio himself.

The other failure was an "Adoration of the Magi" by Jan de Beer, an Antwerp mannerist of the early sixteenth century, to whom several fine paintings are attributed. It was left unsold at £85,000 (unpublished estimate £100,000).

The sale's successes came among the attractive Dutch paintings in good condition. A "Still Life of Fruit and Flowers" by Jan van Huysum went for £112,200 (estimate £60,000 to £80,000) to H. Fritz-Denneville, a London dealer.

A "Still Life of Fruit and Nuts" by Georg Flegel also exceeded expectation at £60,500 (estimate £35,000 to £45,000).

Among the landscapes, "The Frozen River Maas with Merwede Castle" made £63,800 (estimate £40,000 to £60,000). Lord Howe sold it from his family collection at Christie's in 1976 for £11,000.

Pittoni's "Allegory of Winter and Summer" made £52,800 (estimate £20,000 to £30,000) and Fra Galgario's "Portrait of a Young Boy with a Glass" made £14,300 (estimate £2,000 to £3,000).

The sale totalled £1.3m, with 32 per cent unsold.

At Christie's prices for eighteenth-century volumes of printed music soared, with the New York dealers Wurlitzer and Bruck carrying off most of the prizes.

They paid £756 (estimate £50 to £80) for William Duncombe's *First Book of Progressive Lessons for the Harpsichord and Piano Forte*, published around 1785 and six other volumes of miscellaneous music.

However, another group of eighteenth-century music for the violin and other stringed instruments went to the same dealers at £65 (estimate £50 to £80). The reason for intense competition on some lots remained obscure.

Musical instruments also attracted strong bidding, with a particular premium being paid for condition.

The miners' dispute

Dockers in Scotland black coal

Scottish dockers, members of the Transport and General Workers' Union, yesterday decided to black the handling of coal at all ports, including Hunterston on the Clyde coast, which supplies coal to the British Steel Corporation plant at Ravenscraig.

Mr James Gilligan, Scottish docks group secretary, said afterwards that he did not want the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation and the transport union "at each other's throats", and would ask for a meeting with the steelworkers as soon as possible.

Shop stewards from Ravenscraig had appealed to the Scottish TUC to support their demand for increased coal supplies to keep the plant in operation.

Ravenscraig is thought to have enough coal stocks for another 10 days' normal production. The steelworkers fear that their three-year campaign supported by the National Union of Mineworkers, to retain Ravenscraig could be lost if production is allowed to drop.

● Full production for several more weeks at the Port Talbot steel plant was assured yesterday when more than 300 picketing miners, six of whom were arrested, failed to prevent the unloading of 60,900 tons of foreign coal.

● Coal imports through Exmouth and Teignmouth docks in Devon have been halted by miners' pickets from south Wales.

Locomen may reject blacking

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The National Coal Board yesterday detected a growing reluctance among Nottinghamshire train drivers to obey their union leaders' order to halt the movement of coal.

Locomotivemen at the key Toton depot, which handles much of the bulk coal traffic to electricity generating stations in the east Midlands, are understood to be rebelling against instructions to take sympathetic industrial action.

Coal board sources reported that train drivers have told local leaders of the National Union of Mineworkers that they will ignore "blacking" instructions issued by their union, Aslef, and the National Union of Railwaymen, unless Nottinghamshire miners join in the "rolling strike" now nearly four weeks old.

Their ultimatum came on the eve of a coalfield delegate conference of the miners' union called to approve an area executive instruction that 34,000 pitmen who have voted to work normally should not cross picket lines.

The conference is likely to be deeply split, and some Nottinghamshire miners threatened yesterday to tear up their union cards if they are effectively told to strike.

The coal board reported that production at Nottinghamshire pits was practically normal. Moderate leaders of the union want to keep it that way in the week before the executive meets to determine whether there should be a national strike ballot.

Mr Trevor Bell, secretary of the union's white-collar section, said he could not see why the left was trying to ensure that the strike was total before the April 12 executive meeting. "If the strike was 100 per cent effective by the time we meet, the militants would argue that there was no longer a need for a ballot," he said.

Left-wingers who stress that the industry is three-quarters strikebound with only 42 out of 176 pits working normally, advance that argument. The moderates, however, believe they have enough mandated votes to compel a secret pithead poll even before Easter.

● A bitter and disillusioned Mr Henry Richardson, the Nottinghamshire area general secretary, has conceded that today his delegates will almost certainly solidly reject his executive's call not to cross picket lines (Craig Seton writes).

Mr Richardson said: "If it is overturned it will be a real tragedy because we will be reviled not only now, but for history

'Riot police' condemned by staff union

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

The use of "riot police" in industrial disputes is condemned in a report prepared for a union which represents 10,000 staff employed by the police.

The document, prepared for the annual conference of the National and Local Government Officers' Association, says: "Whatever the rights and wrongs of mass picketing, it is clearly a disturbing and dangerous development for Continental-style riot police to be unleased on trade unionists during an industrial dispute.

"Far from encouraging peaceful picketing, such behaviur is ledly to make violence endemic on picket lines during this sort of dispute."

The report was prepared before the miners' strike and the unprecedented police operation that has attended it. When the document goes before delegates in June, the union executive will almost certainly be asked to demand an investigation into the use of police against "flying pickets".

The paper *Government Activities Against Trade Unions*, went before last year's conference, but was referred back to the executive for consideration and recommendations".

It is not clear, hoowever, how much support it will receive from the police staff who are conservative and normally support their employers.

The report also urges that the TUC be asked to mount a wide-ranging investigation to establish the legality of the use of emergency powers by the Government. If necessary the union should promote legislation "to ensure parliamentary scrutiny over the involvement of the armed forces and police

Press must 'adapt or die'

Britain's national newspapers could disappear unless they adapt to new technology, Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister of Information Technology, said yesterday.

"Modernize or fossilize", he told members of the Newspaper Society, which represents regional newspaper employers. "At the very worst, if newspapers do not adopt the new technologies they will simply and slowly disappear, just as the dinosaurs disappeared into the alluvial slime."

Mr Baker told a Newspaper Society luncheon in London that he was pleased that many regional newspapers had introduced new technology. "Fleet Street has remained embedded in another age."

Many people feared that new technology would destroy jobs, he said. "This revolution, of which you are a part, will create jobs

Computing for jobless

By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent

The first of a new type of computer training school for the unemployed is to be opened in June in Hammersmith, west London.

The London computer and Electronics School will train 120 computer programmers, operators and technicians in its first year. The £1m project is jointly funded by the BOC company, the Manpower Services Commission, the Department of Trade and Industry and Hammersmith borough council.

The company, which runs 20 similar schools in the United States training 10,000 people a year, hopes to give jobs to more than 75 per cent of those leaving the school.

● National Semiconductors, of the US, one of the world's leading microchip manufacturers, is to set up a 150-job plant in Swindon, Wiltshire.

Russian journalist coy about Scargill 'class war interview'

By Richard Dowden

The Russian journalist whose purported interview with Mr Arthur Scargill was disowned by the miners' president would not confirm yesterday that he had directly interviewed Mr Scargill.

Mr Vissarion Sisnyov, the London correspondent of *Trud* (*Labour*), the Moscow trade union paper, said at his flat in Maida Vale, London yesterday that he could say nothing until he had spoken to his editor

"But I want to put the record straight in one respect", he said. "In the publication *Trud* nothing is said about class war – it only mentions class interests"

Although the words "class war" do not appear in the text of the article, the headlines on page two of Tuesday's *Trud* reads: "The miners will not give up" and "At the front of the class struggle".

Reports of the article came back to London from Western correspondents in Moscow who wrote that Arthur Scargill had stated that the pit strike had unleashed a class war against the British ruling class.

The National Union of Mineworkers said on Tuesday that the reports were untrue and that the alleged interview never took place, although "the journal informed Mr Scargill that it would be reproducing extracts from an article written by him for a British paper".

Trud: "The workers see and know that businessmen, stockbrokers, and the big press proprietors easily spend more on a bottle of wine than an old age pensioner gets to live on for a week. Figuratively speaking, this is the barrel of social gunpowder which has been exploded by miners' anger."

Morning Star: "At a basic level they see businessmen, stockbrokers, Fleet Street editors, and other worthies of society spend more on a bottle of wine than a pensioner has to survive on for a week. In essence that's the social powder keg in which the present miners' industrial explosion has taken place."

Most of the *Trud* interview bears a striking resemblance to an article written by Mr Scargill for the *Morning Star*, which appeared on March 29.

Yesterday Mr Sisnyov, a senior journalist of more than 30 years' experience, would not discuss how he had obtained the purported interview, but when asked bout the similarities with the *Morning Star* article he said: "Scargill says exactly about class interest, oppression and everything else on the back page of the *Morning Star*. Everything is there."

A senior editor of *Trud* said in Moscow yesterday that he had been trying to reach Mr Sisnyov by telephone all day without success. Asked why his London correspondent had filed an interview which Mr Scargill said had never taken place, the *Trud* editor replied: "That is what we would like to know as well".

Tuesday's article said: "Arthur Scargill, President of the NUM, answers questions by the London Correspondent of *Trud*, V. Sisnyov". There are four questions and answers. Mr Sisnoyov confirmed that he had produced his report in the form of an interview and said that while the paper could edit it, "the main things, the political formulations" would not be changed.

Mr Sisnyov disappeared yesterday morning from his London flat in Maida Vale, which also serves as an office.

But at lunchtime he drove up to the back door of the block of flats. When stopped by journalists he said: "I hope you won't be offended but I cannot say anything. In other circumstances I would invite you in for a drink as fellow journalists."



Saying little: Mr Sisnyov outside his London flat yesterday (Photograph: John Manning).

Errors in maths computer programs

By Lucy Hodges, Education correspondent

Serious mistakes have been discovered in some of the mathematics programs made for computer use in primary schools by the government-sponsored microelectronics education programme.

The deficiencies identified by the Mathematical Association have been found in four mathematics programs in the Micro Primer pack issued to the thousands of primary schools which have bought a micro under the Department of Trade and Industry's micros in schools scheme.

Mr Brian Hughes, chairman of a Mathematical Association committee set up to look at the new software, said that the program called What Shape? was wrong logically as well as mathematically. It did not distinguish between a square and a rhombus and required children to write down, incorrectly, that a shape having four equal sides was a square.

Other programs containing serious deficiencies were Gates, Venman, and Vennkids. Mr Richard Fothergill, director of the education programme, which is based in Newcastle Upon Tyne, said that the comments should be taken seriously.

"We are going to get the authors of the programs together with the people from the Mathematical Association and see if we can reach a consensus about what is wrong

A total of 19,000 out of 27,000 primary schools have applied for micros under the Department of Trade and Industry's pound-for-pound matching scheme and they will have received or be about to receive the Micro Primer pack. It contains 31 programs and was made at a cost of £100,000.

A further eight programs in the pack should be used by teachers with care if pupils were not to be given incorrect mathematical ideas, the Mathematical Association said.

The Jessop trial

Two cleared of gold conspiracy charges

Mr Keith Jessop, the deep sea diver, was cleared yesterday of dishonestly masterminding the recovery in 1981 of gold worth £45m from HMS Edinburgh.

After a two-week trial at the Central Criminal Court, Mr Jessop, aged 52, and Mr John Jackson, aged 57, an official of the Salvage Association, were acquitted of conspiring to defraud two rival firms for the contract. They were arrested in August, 1982.

Mr Jessop, from Utley, West Yorkshire, and Mr Jackson, from Huntingdom, Cambridgeshire, a former merchant seaman who had worked for the Salvage Association since 1941, were cleared last week by Judge Tudor Price, the Common Serjeant, of five charges under section 2 of the Official Secrets Act relating to the alleged "leaking" of classified documents.

The judge awarded both men costs, expected to exceed £100,000.

Mr Jessop dreamt of leading a British expedition to recover hundreds of gold ingots from HMS Edinburgh, torpedoed in 1942 by German submarines in the Barents Sea. Its bomb room was stacked with Russian gold to pay for US arms.

But Mr Jessop, a small salvage operator with no financial backing was regarded as "a scrap metal merchant" and subject to derision when he put his plans forward, his counsel, Mr Harry Ognall, QC, said.

Rumours spread after Mr Jessop won the salvage contract in the face of competition from two established concerns, Risdon Beazley Marine, formerly British but now German – owned, and Stolt Nielsen, a Norwegian salvage group.

Scotland Yard made inquiries after the publication of a book, *Stalin's Gold*.

The prosecution had alleged that Mr Jessop and Mr Jackson had blackened the names of rivals and suggested that Mr Jessop was to pay Mr Jackson £100,000 for his help in winning the contract.

Both men denied any impropriety or that any payment was to be made for assistance.

Mr Jackson, head of a three-man salvage association department which dealt with hundreds of wrecks, admitted giving certain information to Mr Jessop, whom he regarded as a "risin star" and the best person to challenge the monopoly of salvage contracts that had been held for many years, mainly by Risdon Beazley.

Mr Jessop's consortium won the contract with a bid of 45 per cent of the value of the salvaged gold, well below rivals.

The court was told that some officials of the Salvage Association, incorporated 117 years ago under royal charter, the Board of Trade, and Ministry of Defence thought the monopoly on salvage contracts had to be broken and were unhappy with the way in which Risdon Beazley, in particular, dealt with contracts, and their charges.



Mr Keith Jessop with one of the gold bars recovered from HMS Edinburgh.

Three patients given teenager's organs

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

A man aged 49 received the heart of a boy aged 16 in an operation early yesterday. Two other patients were given kidneys from the boy, the victim of a road accident.

Carl Reese, of Crewe, Cheshire, died in North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary, Stoke-on-Trent. His parents said they gave permission because they believed their son would have wanted it.

"We would like as much publicity as possible in the hope that more people will feel the same way", Mr Nigel Reese said. "His life certainly will not have been wasted if someone else's can be saved."

The heart transplant was the second of the week by surgeons at Harefield Hospital, west London. They flew to Stoke on Tuesday night to remove the heart and returned tp Harefield to complete the transplant.

Surgeons from West Germany also travelled to Stoke in the hope of removing the youth's liver. They found, however, that the organ was unsuitable.

"The German surgeons were invited to come over as part of a reciprocal transplantation arrangement which exists in European countries", the infirmary said yesterday. "The only two liver transplant units in Britain, at Birmingham and Cambridge, had performed that operation within the previous 24 hours and had no need of another organ."

The heart recipient, a married man from west London, was making good progress yesterday. The other heart transplant patient, a Sicilian-born woman, was also doing well.

She received the heart of a man who died last weekend. Four other patients benefited from transplants from him.

The Department of Health and Social Security said yesterday that there was evidence of heightened awareness of organ donation among the public.

BA halves shuttle flight costs

By Patricia Clough

British Airways has cut fares on many shuttle flights from London by half, to attract a new type of non-business passenger who has only recently taken to flying.

Throughout the summer, return tickets on 140 off-peak and weekend flights will cost £58 to Glasgow and Edinburgh and £44 to Manchester.

They will be valid for day trips or for return within a month. Tickets have to be bought at least 14 days before departure and cannot be changed or cancelled during that period. Changes before then carry a 50 per cent penalty.

According to a British Airways spokesman, some people never travelled regularly by air, rail, or road before but have recently taken to flying. "They are usually off on holiday or going to visit members of the family. They now make up 5 or 6 per cent of the total market and seem to have materialized out of thin air."

British Airways also hopes to lure passengers away from rival airlines and British Rail, which are providing stiff competition on the big-city links.

British Rail is pleased with the success of its "saver" return tickets which cost £29 from London to Glasgow, £32 to Edinburgh, and £16 to Manchester.

Mr Michael Bishop, chairman and managing director of British Midland, said that his airline's standard fare was £6 cheaper that British Airways' regular flights

Estate agencies criticized

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

A national survey of people who used estate agents to sell their house shows that nearly a quarter were dissatisfied with the service and half had some complaint, *Which?*, the Consumers' Association magazine reports today.

One in five felt that fees were too high, a similar proportion thought the service was indifferent or inefficient, and others found the advertising inadequate.

The survey found that estate agents' particulars about houses could be incorrect and misleading, and people who used more than one agent found a difference in their attitudes ranging from "polite and efficient" to "didn't seem too interested in selling the property".

Looking at the alternatives to the use of estate agints, *Which?* recommends that if someone thinks that his house will be easy to sell with some advertising, they should try to sell it privately for a few weeks.

Which? suggests that if the private sale is not successful, the vendor should ask the cost of selling through a property shop, which charges a flat rate fee for a sale.

Avonmouth to Cardiff hovercraft

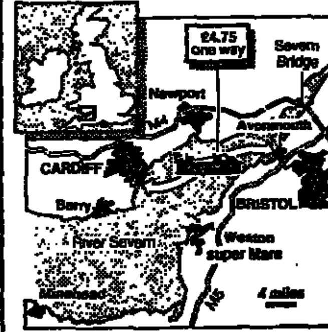
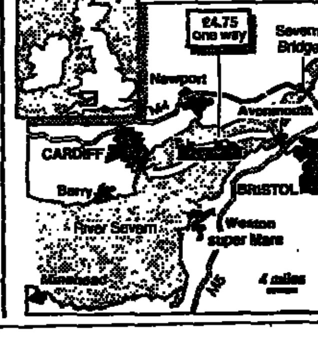
From Tim Jones, Cardiff

Plans were announced yesterday for a hovercraft service across the Bristol Channel. A month-long trial will begin at Easter and if successful, an all-year service will link Cardiff and Avonmouth.

A Cardiff businessman, Mr Geoffrey Ford, is putting up £15,000 to finance the trial.

The crossing takes about half an hour. With coach links it would take just under an hour to travel from one city centre to another. There will be five return crossings a day and a single fare will cost about £4.75.

Motorists can complete the 40-mile journey between the two centres in about 50 minutes. The return train fare is £8.

Full house at Devon 'dole hotel'

By a Staff Reporter

The Grand Hotel in Dawlish, which advertised the delights of Devon to the unemployed of Manchester and Birmingham, has exceeded its expectations and attracted abusive telephone calls denouncing the "scroungers and hooligans" whose rent was paid by social security.

Mr Bob Hale, who owns the hotel with Mrs Maureen Palmer, said yesterday that the policy had kept the hotel full for most of the winter

Two unemployed residents, Miss Rachel House, aged 20, and Mr Neil Oatley, aged 19, from the Isle of Wight, who lived in a tent in Winchester for several months, said: "You cannot get the dole or some jobs if you do not have an address; and often you cannot get a place to stay if they know you do not have a job."

Two accused of taking terrier

Two people charged with stealing a Yorkshire terrier from the Essex home of Mrs Jean Clayden, the horse driving champion, and demanding a £2,000 ransom were remanded on bail by Witham magistrates yesterday.

David Pearce, aged 35, and Mrs Marion West, aged 38, from Stevenage, Hertfordshire, are accused of taking two-year-old Barney from Mrs Clayden's stud in Kelvedon at the weekend. It las been returned.

Suchet divorce

Mr John Suchet, Washington correspondent for ITN, was divorced by his wife Constance, aged 40, in a special procedure case at the Divorce Court in London yesterday. Mr Suchet, aged 40, did not contest the petition in which his wife named Bonnie Cleghorn-Browne as the other party. They married in 1968.

Law Society to coopt laymen

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Radical reforms to restore public confidence in the Law Society's handling of complaints against solicitors were outlined yesterday.

Under proposals made by a Law Society committee and expected to e endorsed by the society's council next week, two laymen would sit for the first time as watchdogs on the committee handling complaints.

There are also measures for a new, nationwide network of solicitors to interview aggrieved clients face to face and an arbitration panel dealing with small claims of possibly up to £500 against solicitors for bad work

For complaints against council members, the committee proposes referral to one of a dozen outside solicitors' firms.

The reforms follow disquiet over the affair of Mr Glanville Davies, a former council member struck off for overcharging a client by £131,000, the handling of whose case was labelled a "disgrace" by the society's own inquiry.

Yesterday Mr Alan Coles, chairman of the professional purposes committee which is proposing the reforms, said: "My committee believes it has to not only get it right when it comes to complaints handling but also to demonstrate that it does get it right".

He expected that, apart from legislative changes needed to give the laymen full voting rights, the new measures would be in force by the autumn.

The cost of the proposals, which the society has taken the unusual step of publishing before the council meeting, is estimated to be up to £300,000 on the present £1m budget for handling 8,000 complaints a year. About 200 involve council members or their firms and one in five comes from other solicitors.

The professional purposes committee's lay members, to be coopted with two new non-council solicitor members, would be appointed by an independent body.

Their role, the committee said, would be to dispel "widely held fears and suspicions" about the way it operates because of the confidentiality surrounding its work.

Criticisms over the Davies affair go far wider than the way the society handles complaints against council members, the committee said.

At worst there are accusations that the society whitewashes members of the profession and at best "unease that justice is not seen to be done because the society is judge and jury in its own cause".

Call for judge to go

● Mr Leslie Parsons, the Welsh businessman who made legal history by getting Mr Davies struck off, has now made the unique move of petitioning the Queen to have a circuit judge, Sir Jonathan Clarke, removed from the Bench.

Sir Jonathan, a former Law Society president was a member of the society's council when Mr Parsons complained about Mr Davies' conduct.

PARLIAMENT April 4 1984

Precedents for cancellation of council elections

COMMONS

The Government hopes to be able to make available before the weekend a brief summary analysis of the main points of the many representations it had received over its proposals to abolish the GLC and six other metropolitan authorities, Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Environment, indicated during questioning in the Commons.

He explained he also hoped to indicate some of the Government's thinking when he came next week to move the second reading of the Local Government (Interim Provisions) Bill published last Friday, which provides for the cancellation of next year's elections to these seven authorities. The six metropolitan county councils are those in Tyne and Wear, South and West Yorkshire, West Midlands, Greater Manchester and Merseyside.

There were precedents for preventing elections during local government reorganization, he said, in reporting he had received more than 2,300 responses to the White Paper *Streamlining the Cities*, since last answering questions in the House.

Mr Robert Wareing (Liverpool, West Derby, Lab) asked what proportion of these call into question his proposals? Will he accept the response of the Merseyside Chamber of Commerce that the Merseyside County Council has successfully promoted commercial and business activity in the region and that the abolition of this county council would have no savings whatsoever for the business community on Merseyside?

Bearing in mind that he told the Tory Party Conference in October that it should listen to the voice of industry, is it not about time he practised what he preached?

Mr Jenkin: The Government was elected on a clear manifesto commitment to carry out this reform of local government. That is what we propose to do.

Mr Patrick Cormack (South Staffordshire, C): will he give further thought to issuing a White Paper detailing his considered proposals when he has had a chance to reflect on all the representations made to him?

Mr Jenkin: I am considering what will be the best way of announcing our decisions on a number of matters we have had representations about. I hope to indicate some of the Government's thinking when I move the second reading of the Local Government (Interim Provisions) Bill, which I introduced last Friday.

Mr Robert Brown (Newcastle upon Tyne North, Lab): When does he propose to publish the full objections in detail he has had to this White Paper?

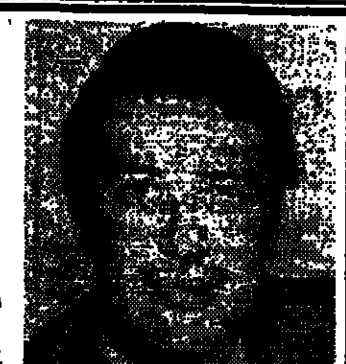
Mr Jenkin: It would be contrary to all precedent for a Government to publish all the representations it has received. We shall make available very shortly – I hope before the weekend – a brief summary analysis of the main points, followed by the full summary analysis of the representations as soon as possible thereafter.

Mr Toby Jessel (Twickenham, C): How much ratepayers' money has the GLC spent on propaganda in favour of its own continuation?

Mr Jenkin: Up to the end of March it was more than £2m and they are already budgeting to spend a further £1m in the rest of this year. Many ratepayers will regard that as a gross misuse of ratepayers' money.

Mr John Cunningham, chief Opposition spokesman on the environment (Copeland, Lab): Since the proposals are against all precedent, why is the House of Commons, and why are 18,000,000 people who will be affected by these proposals, being denied any sight of the evidence?

Is it not also true there is no manifesto commitment for the abolition of elections in 1985 as is being proposed? Does he not recognize that he is setting a very dangerous constitutional precedent in taking this course of action?



Jessel: How much spent on propaganda?

Mr Jenkin: On the contrary, the precedents on the question of elections are entirely in favour of what the Government is doing. In each previous local government reorganization, in 1962 and 1972, there were provisions whose wording was similar to that in the Bill I hope we will debate next week.

They caught, as well as by-elections, ordinary elections for county boroughs, urban and rural districts, many of which were elected by thirds. These happen to be dealing with a council where the whole council is up for election, but the principle is the same.

Mr Derek Fatchett (Leeds Central, Lab): the public is concerned that legislation is being introduced to abolish elections before this House has had the opportunity to vote on the abolition of the metropolitan counties.

Mr Jenkin: It is my intention that the order for the suspension of elections will not be introduced until the House has given a second reading to the main abolition Bill in the next session of Parliament. The proprieties are entirely observed.

Mr Hilary Miller (Bromsgrove, C): The Secretary of State could dispel scepticism and gain support for his proposed Bill if he was able to indicate that attention was being given to the whole question of local government financing.

Mr Jenkin: Where those authorities affected have been able to make worthwhile estimates of the cost to them of running the services that will devolve upon them, they have indicated the prospect of substantial savings.

Demands for debate rejected by Speaker

COAL DISPUTE

Labour MPs made a further unsuccessful attempt to persuade the Speaker to grant an emergency debate on police action in the miners' strike. Complaints were also made about the police operation at Greenham Common earlier today.

Mr Allen McKay (Barnsley West and Penistone, Lab) sought an emergency debate on what he described as the erosion of civil liberties arising from the present coal industry dispute.

He said he was not seeking a debate to attack the police, but he believed it would be in the best interests of the House, of civil liberties and of the police themselves that a debate should be held.

The House had a right to know what instructions had been given to the police and whether these instructions were being exceeded.

He agreed with what had been said yesterday about 'the freedom and civil liberties of the minority as well as the majority. The House should debate the issue before both the majorityy and the minority accused MPs of sitting on their bottoms while an erosion of freedom and civil rights was taking place.

If the House of Commons was not about the freedom of the people, freedom of the minorities and freedom of the majorities, then it was nothing.

The Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) rejected the application.

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab) said that when turning down the fifth similar application for an emergency debate yesterday the Speaker had stressed he could not do so on that day. Many people were therefore under the impression that he would be prepared to consider it again in the event of a further application such as today's.

He was beginning to wonder if they were just being strung along as many had believed the granting of such an application was imminent. What were the prospects now?

The Speaker said he should not read more into what he said yesterday than what he had said today. He had now ruled on this matter and no further points of order could arise.

The first of several MPs who then attempted to raise a point of order on the same subject of civil liberties was **Mr Robert Clay** (Sunderland North, Lab) but he was interrupted by **the Speaker** who said he could not rule on civil liberties.

Mr Clay later said he and Mr Tony Benn (Chesterfield, Lab) had been at Greenham Common earlier and the question of civil liberties arose from that. It was a matter quite separate from the miners' dispute. They had seen police road blocks more than a mile from the base and ordinary members of the public were being stopped.

The Speaker: That is not a matter on which I can rule. What happens at Greenham Common is not a matter for the Chair.

Mr Benn said they had seen a mass eviction at Greenham Common this morning and police roadblocks from which the same issues arose as from police action elsewhere.

If major erosions of civil liberties occured and were brought to the attention of the House which then, for one reason or another, did not find opportunity to discuss them, the House was brought into disrepute.

The Speaker said there would have been time today for MPs to apply to make an application for an emergency debate if they had wished to do so. He was not prepared to take any further points of order on the subject.

Seat belts

Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State for Transport, said in a Commons written reply that it was estimated that if all car and van drivers and front seat passengers had worn seat belts around 9,000 fatalities and 120,000 serious injuries would have been averted since 1970.

London's concessionary fare scheme gets statutory backing

TRANSPORT

A Government new clause which, for the first time, gives statutory backing to a London-wide concessionary fares scheme and provides a guarantee of off-peak free travel for pensioners and other disadvantaged people was moved by Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, during the report stage of the London Regional Transport Bill.

Mr Ridley said that concessionary fares had concerned MPs more than any other issue in the Bill. The issues in the Bill were important. It was a pity that the House had to spend so much time on the Bill, especially as there had never been any threat to the passes.

It had been the Greater London Council's best hope of opposing the Bill, by frightening pensioners. They had exploited it ruthlessly.

London had an especially generous system of concessionary fares and in the shire counties, where the need was as great, if not greater, there was about a quarter of the cash contribution to concessionary fares.

If London wanted to make this a priority, it should be a priority, but it was right that Londoners should pay for it and that it should come from the general resources of local government in London.

It was impossible to be precise about the exact financial regime which London boroughs would find themselves in as the time came to shoulder the burden of paying for concessionary fares, but the Government would carefully consider the implications for targets for boroughs and, by implication their treatment for rate-capping, if any of them came near to that.

They would try to preserve the method by which net yield was distributed from the richer to the poorer boroughs.

He hoped the clause would never be implemented because the London boroughs would come to a voluntary agreement. This and other Government new clauses contained provisions suggested as a fall-back scheme.

Opposition amendments being considered with the Government proposals gave no opportunities for boroughs to agree to a voluntary scheme and guaranteed the continuation of whatever scheme the GLC left in operation on the appointed day. That was misconceived.

The Government scheme was superior. It was backed by statute as no scheme had ever been before. It had powers to prevent the boroughs or the GLC charging a heavy fee for bus passes.

Ridley: GLC has been frightening pensioners

It was right to keep the scheme to off-peak periods – 9.30am to 4.30pm and 6.30pm to 1am. It was pointless to encourage pensioners to travel when workers and commuters were going to and from work at peak times.

To suggest that the concession should be extended to the peaks seemed to deny the transport logic and the economics of why concessionary fares were a good idea in the first place. The Opposition proposal to abolish the afternoon peak as a period when the pensioner was barred from free travel would cost £4m.

I hope the GLC will now stop flogging this dead horse (he said). It is sickening to have continually to try to reassure people, even after February 16 when I made it clear the Government would bring this clause forward.

As recently as two or three days ago, the GLC were still saying in a broadsheet that the Government was refusing to place a legal duty on the boroughs to provide concessionary fares. He did not think these advertisements by the GLC would pass the tests of the Advertising Standard Authority. If the GLC put up posters of that sort he would make sure they were referred to the ASA.

Mr John Prescott, chief Opposition spokesman on transport, said the clause made clear that if the boroughs did not provide a uniform scheme then the Secretary of State could use his powers to make sure such a scheme came into effect.

What we have (he said) is a local authority service to be financed by the local authority but controlled by the Secretary of State.

He was sorry Mr Ridley had not taken the opportunity to take the scheme even further and consider its possible extension to the unemployed.

An Opposition amendment to extend the concession to the 4.30 to 6.30pm rush hour was rejected by 273 votes to 181 – Government majority, 92, and the Government new clauses agreed to.

Government battling for price stability

HOUSE OF LORDS

Despite the Government's success in bringing down the rate of inflation it had been left with a legacy of fear that, like previous governments, it would give up the battle and the only way to overcome that was to show it meant what it said, the **Earl of Gowrie**, speaking for the Government, said during a debate in the House of Lords on the burden of high interest rates on productive industry and the diversion of effort to less protective but more financially rewarding activities and the strain on the third world of the high cost of borrowing.

The Government would not give up the battle, he said, with the ultimate objective of price stability. *The policy set out in the medium-*term strategy should enable the Government to make substantial progress towards this aim during the lifetime of the present Parliament and success would bring down interest rates as well as inflation.

Lord Beswick (Lab), opening the debate, said high interest rates discouraged the production of real wealth, distorted the economy, diverted resouces and activity from genuinely fruitful banking to the crude handling and dealing in money, and in parts of the world was imposing so severe a strain on economic and social systems that a breaking point might be reached.

Last year the poor south of the world had borrowed $85,000m from the wealthy, developed countries but paid their creditors $95,000m in interest and capital.

A net flow of cash from the rich to the poor was one thing, but a net flow of cash from the poor to the rich was a new style colonialism without the governers' plumes.

If high interest rates remained, even the Opposition's plans for creating new wealth, improving the infrastructure, and employing more by public investment, would be in trouble.

Lord Taylor of Gryfe (SDP) said the world debt problem would be with them for some time to come, but he was encouraged by the steps that had been taken by the international banking community to put its house in order.

London arts will not be decimated

The decision by the Arts Council to devote more money to the regions would not decimate arts provision in London the **Earl of Gowrie**, Minister for the Arts, said during question time in the House of Lords.

He had been asked by **Lord Jenkins of Putney** (Lab) if he was aware of public concern about the recent decisions by the Arts Council.

The Earl of Gowrie said: The Arts Council's review of its priorities is to be commended and I welcome its decision to free resources for innovation and development, particularly in the regions.

I am delighted that the strategy document *The Glory of the Garden* has been very well received.

Lord Jenkins of Putney: I welcome the proposals to increase subsidies outside London but they should not be at the expense of killing off existing parts of Arts Council work.

The Earl of Gowrie: The Arts Council knows what it is doing and is to be commended. There is no evidence of any likely decimation of arts provision in London. Many people, including the Opposition, have drawn attention to the imbalance between the regions and London.

Lord Strabolgi (Lab): Threatened closures including many in the regions and the threat to axe one of our most distinguished national orchestras stems from the fact that the Government are not funding the Arts Council sufficiently.

Officials in talks on payment

PSA CHIEF

Mr Montague Alfred whose appointment as chairman of the Property Services Agency has been terminated had not been implicated in any way in corruption, Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, said in the Commons. He indicated he was considering the appointment of a new chairman as a matter of urgency.

Mr Ernest Ross (Dundee, West Lab) asked what costs to the Department of Environment had been involved in terminating Mr Alfred's appointment.

Mr Jenkin: My officials are in touch with Mr Alfred on the amount to be paid by reason of the termination of his appointment.

Mr Ross: The circumstances of the dismissal of the chairman, because of rampant corruption and masonic influence, mean that it is time to bring in the police for a full investigation.

Mr Jenkin: There is no suggestion and never has been that Mr Alfred is implicated in any way in corruption.

Mr Alfred's three-year service contract was due to run to the end of this year but was terminated by mutual agreement. In the circumstances it is appropriate that we should consider payment of compensation.

Mr Timothy Smith (Beaconsfield, C): One of the problems of PSA is that it is difficult to manage. Will he examine the functions of the agency to see what scope there is for future privatization and additional use of design construction contracts?

Mr Jenkin: One of the problems is the size and diversity of the PSA. Some 100 per cent of its main construction work and 90 per cent of maintenance contracts are out to private contract and we shall, in a short while, reach a point where 60 per cent of design work will be put out to private contract.

But there are a number of major questions about the management and organization of the PSA and these are under active study.

Sir William van Straubenzee (Wokingham, C) asked if, before a new chairman was announced, the reorganization proposals particularly associated with Mr Alfred and affecting regional offices would be put in abeyance.

Mr Jenkin: We have concluded that it would not be sensible at this stage to proceed along the lines that Mr Alfred was advocating. We are considering a number of issues about the role and future of the PSA urgently. This is a factor which will weigh with us in the choice of a new chief executive.

Ross: Time for full police investigation

Mr William Walker (Tayside North, C) said the PSA was large and complex with enormous scope for things to go wrong, deliberately or otherwise. It would take a chairman of remarkable calibre to bring it to order.

Mr Jenkin said many things went right at PSA and were done to a high standard and he instanced the Cabinet war rooms just opened in Westminster. The PSA was a complex organization with a high quality of management.

Mr Douglas Hoyle (Warrington North, Lab): Will Mr Jenkin ensure that whoever he appoints is suitable, unlike Mr Alfred, that he is not paid an inflated salary of £50,000 like Mr Alfred, and that the Government does not engage in another tax fiddle of paying it into a private company?

Mr Jenkin replied: He would be well advised not to use the words "tax fiddle" outside this House and he should not use the privilege of this House to say those things inside the House.

Mr Jack Straw, an Opposition spokesman on the environment: Why does not Mr Jenkin admit what everyone outside the House knows very well, which is that Mr Montague Alfred was dismissed from his £1,000 a week job from the private sector?

There have been two wasted years in the appointment, and Mr Alfred failed to root out inefficiency and corruption with his undermining of the confidence and trust of the majority of the staff whose integrity and efficiency is not in question.

Mr Jenkin: When I made a statement on October 5 and published the Wardale Touch Ross report, I made clear that the Government attached the highest priority to the implementation of the recommendations of that report to root out corruption.

But I make it abundantly clear that there is not the slightest suggestion, and never has been a glimmer of suggestion, that Mr Alfred himself had any connexion.

Big step but not yet enough

EEC BUDGET

There was a long way to go before European Community agricultural spending was brought fully under control but a significant and courageous start had been made, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, declared in the Commons in opening a debate on current negotiations within the EEC.

He declared that the outcome of the EEC Agricultural Ministers meeting was a major step towards reform of the common agricultural policy. The removal of open-ended guarantees on products in surplus was a major step and the agreement on a price freeze or price reductions for most major commodities was a considerable achievement.

Implementing those decisions was not going be easy for any member state. This had been made clear by the chorus of complaint among farmers throughout the EEC.

Mr Nicholas Budgen (Wolverhampton, South West, C): Is the deal enough to constitute fundamental reform of the CAP before we are prepared to authorise an increase in own resources for the EEC budget?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: This deal is a formidable step in the right direction. On its own it is not enough, but this progress has been made before even the regulations have started to operate. It is a significant and courageous start.

As for budget fairness, they had made a good deal of headway since Stuttgart. Contributions would be related to ability to pay and there would be no more ad hoc arrangements from year to year, plainly a more sensible way to finance the EEC.

The issue which still separated them was the figure on which the system should be based. They had to get the base figure right from the outset. What counted was the cumulative effect over a long period.

We have not argued (he said) for a zero contribution. We expect to remain net contributors to the EEC budget, even under a new system. We want to make sure that this net contribution does not increase unreasonably. The question is not so much the size of our rebate in the opening year, although it is important, as the way the system will work over a number of years.

The United Kingdom took the view that if there were to be an increase in own resources as part of a package, it should be restricted to 1.4 per cent in 1986 and be subject to ratification by national parliaments.

If there was to be a proposal of a futher increase to 1.6 per cent, that could only take place with unanimous agreement of member states and subject to ratification by national parliaments.

That view had eventually been accepted at Brussels by every member state.

So we accepted that there was a case for a limited increase in the VAT ceiling (he said) but we made it clear that that depended on long-term effective control of Community spending and on the establishment of a fair and lasting budget system. I cannot emphasize too strongly that a necessary consequence of such a fair and lasting budget system will be significent reduction in the effective burden on the United Kingdom.

The Community was committed to paying the 1983 refunds and Britain would insist that they did. Nevertheless the Government had taken the view that it should take no action which might damage the prospects of decisive progress in present negotiations.

Bill on faulty homes

HOUSING

The Bill dealing with the problem of defence in system-built homes in England, Scotland and Wales would be introduced today (Wednesday) and published tomorrow (Thursday) Mr Ian Gow, Minister for Housing and Construction, said in the Commons. He added that the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland would be introducing a similar measure.

Replying to Mr Don Concannon (Mansfield, Lab), he said he hoped the Bill would have a speedy passage.

Where local authorities have a duty to repurchase (he added) there would be an Exchequer contribution of 75 per cent of the authority's expenditure in respect of the defective value of the house or flat repurchased.

Mr Eric Heffer, chief Opposition spokesman on housing and construction: We shall examine the Bill carefully. We believe the particular private owners are entitled to get assistance.

There are thousands of council tenants and local authorities who will be placed in a position where it appears at the moment that the councils will not be receiving any financial aid to deal with these problems.

The report by the AMA *Defects in Housing, Part Two* estimated it would cost £5,000m to deal with the problems of systems housing for those post-1950 and another £5,000m for those pre-1950.

Mr Gow: I am aware of the report. Present subsidy arrangements take into account expenditure on redevelopment and capitalized repairs.

Slaughter of food animals

Mr **Richard Page** (South West Hertfordshire, C) was refused leave in the Commons by 155 votes to 54 to bring in a Bill to set up a code of practice and five-yearly reviews of the methods of slaughtering food animals.

He said his Bill would lead to all food animals being stunned before slaughter. But he was not seeking to remove the present exemptions for methods of religious slaughter.

Mr David Alton (Liverpool, Mossley Hill, L) said he opposed the Bill as its effect on the Jewish and Moslem communities would be severe. Stunning and cutting animals' throats, before slaughter were both horrible.

The Bill was also premature because the Farm Animal Welfare Council was inquiring into this issue.

Data Bill puts confidentiality at risk, civil liberties group says

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Controversial measures in the Government's Data Protection Bill are attacked in a briefing paper today on the ground that they will lead to even more frequent breaches of confidentiality over medical, social, work, and other records.

The paper, from the National Council for Civil Liberties, says that parts of the Bill coming before MPs today would enable confidential information to be handed to the police or to tax or immigration officials even if no crime has been committed.

Under one clause the user of a registered data bank may disclose information from the bank to anyone requiring it for national security, prevention or detection of crime, prosecution of offenders, or for tax purposes.

It therefore allows "exactly the kind of transfer of personal data which it should prohibit", the paper says.

Anyone in charge of a medical data bank could give information on a patient to a police officer, tax inspector, or customs and excise official. Similarly, government officials could breach the confidentiality of unemployment benefit files, and banks the confidentiality of clients' accounts.

Miss Marie Staunton, the council's legal officer, said the typical case was that of a Birmingham doctor whose health centre was recently vandalized. The police asked his receptionist if they could see records of a named suspect and, under the Bill, she would be able to allow that without the doctor's consent.

In another recent case, the Department of Health and Social Security admitted that it had given the police the names of pregnant women when they were investigating the death of a newly born baby found burnt in a field, causing distress to at least one mother who was questioned.

The council calls for disclosures of confidential information only in the most exceptional circumstances and after an order was made under the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill, or with permission from the data protection registrar.

It says that medical information should be exempt from the Bill, and all other disclosures allowed should be reported to the registrar and the information destroyed as soon as possible by the receiving body.

The Government should also issue guidelines on when disclosures can be made for crime detection.

Outcry saves goats

A herd of goats which has inhabited the Valley of the Rocks, near Lynton, north Devon, for the past century has been saved from extermination.

The local council had decided that the 20 white domestic goats, which allegedly pestered tourists and damaged crops and gardens, should be culled, leaving only brown Cheviot goats in the valley.

But local affection for the goats was so strong that a petition with 600 signatures was raised in a week, and the council thought again.

Now a scheme is to be devised to look after the goats and use them as a tourist attraction.

Sherry-loving oldest man dies at 107

Mr Alfie Grant, Britain's oldest man, died in his sleep at an old people's home, yesterday, two weeks before his 108th birthday.

He had drunk six large sherries and smoked 10 Woodbines every day for 40 years.

Mr Grant, a retired market trader, kept up his drinking and smoking until an infection confined him to bed two weeks ago.

His recipe for long life: "Beware of the three Ws – women, work, and wheels." He never married, never owned a car, and never worked unless he had to.

Brave PC's 'mean' recompense

A young policeman who was shot and seriously wounded as he and his new bride chased armed robbers through the East End of London has been offered so little compensation for his injuries that they hardly cover his expenses.

Police Constable Neil Foreman, now stationed at Hackney, was awarded the Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct by Dame Mary Donaldson, Lord Mayor of London, at a ceremony at Mansion House yesterday. He was out shopping with his wife, Joan, who is also a police officer, in April 1981 when he saw two men holding up a Securicor van outside the Mile End branch of the Midland Bank.

Although they were off duty and driving a borrowed van, they chased the raiders who were trying to escape on a motor cycle with £18,000.

When the fugitives abandoned their motor cycle PC Foreman confronted one of them in the lobby of the London Hospital in Whitechapel. As he tried to get the gun, he was shot at point-blank range through the chest, stomach and bowel.

After major surgery he was on the sick list and in considerable pain for nearly eight months. He said after yesterday's ceremony that he still suffered from time to time and doctors were unable to say whether he would ever recover fully.

As she pinned the award on him, the Lord Mayor said that PC Foreman's conduct "without regard to danger, was in the highest traditions of the police". However the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board awarded him £2,660 for his injuries, a sum which only just covered costs incurred by the couple when they moved to a secret address after receiving threatening telephone calls allegedly from the escaped raiders.

With legal assistance from the Police Federation, PC Foreman, aged 26 and the father of a daughter aged seven months, is hoping that a review of his case will lead to an increased offer.



PC Foreman with his wife, Joan after receiving the award for bravery (Photograph: Tony Weaver).

School heads attack job probation plan

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

A plan for newly appointed head teachers to be assessed by local councils during a two-year probationary period was denounced as a nonsense yesterday by the Secondary Heads Association. Sir Keth Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science published a consultative document yesterday on his proposals, already announced, for a probationary period for new heads. He said they should be assessed by councils, with school governors giving opinions on their performance.

Sir Keith said that each new head should be given a detailed job description. Progress should be reported upon regularly and the new head should receive training.

If the education authority decided a new head was not effective, he should have the right to have his case heard. Those who failed to complete the probationary period should be helped to find other teaching jobs. The scheme would stop the few unsatisfactory appointments and would promote improved assessment and training.

The association reacted swiftly. Mr Peter Snape, general secretary, said he did not think councils could do the assessment because local authority advisers had little experience of management in schools.

Asking governors for their judgement was fraught with danger "especially in these days of politicized governing bodies". Many governors had no experience

Mr Snape said that most heads would have been a deputy head for 10 years and councils had plenty of time to assess candidates.

"If Sir Keith goes ahead with this scheme, he will find no one will be appointed", he said. "For a head to take over a difficult job and find he or she is subject to the whim of governors and the assessment of local authority advisers, and then find he is back where he started, will mean people just will not do it."

Envoy wins libel award

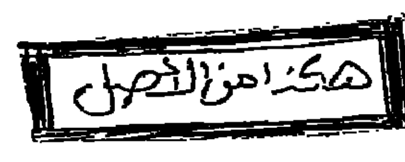
Mr Gordon Kirby received "substantial" libel damages in the High Court in London yesterday over allegations that he was involved in wife-swapping parties and a cover-up on the night Helen Smith, the nurse, died in Saudi Arabia.

Prive Eye accused Mr Kirby of having an adulterous affair with Mrs Penny Arnot, hostess of the illegal drinks party in Jiddah, where Miss Smith died in May 1979.

His counsel, Mr David Eady, QC, told Mr Justice Macpherson that the allegations, in articles between June 1979 and August 1981, were a sustained campaign, gravely defamatory of Mr Kirby and had contributed to his wife having several miscarriages.

At the time of Miss Smith's death Mr Kirby, second secretary at the British embassy in Belgrade, was on the embassy staff at Jiddah.

Private Eye had pleaded justification, but never sought to justify the allegations. The magazine conceded the falsity of the allegations and agreed to pay all Mr Kirby's costs.



Lesotho claims South Africa is plotting new coup against Jonathan

From Michael Hornsby, Maseru

Lesotho, the former British protectorate of Basutoland, believes that South Africa is plotting with oposition politicians to overthrow the regime of Chief Leabu Jonathan, who has held power since independence in 1966, and to replace it with a government ready to do Pretoria's bidding.

Lesotho has cried "wolf" so often that not a few western diplomats in Maseru, the capital, are inclined to sympathize with the South African Foreign Minister, Mr R. F. Botha, in his dismissal of the latest allegations as "antics" by Chief Jonathan.

For once, however, Maseru has firm evidence, including a detailed account of a clandestine meeting on January 6 in Pretoria between Mr Botha and six opposition politicians at which, at the very least, South Africa agreed to give financial hacking to a new anti-Jonathan movement, to be known as the United Democratic Alliance (UDA).

The UDA was formally inaugurated at the meeting and Mr Phoka Chaolane, a member of the opposition Basotho Congress Party (BCP), was elected chairman.

Another leading figure in the new grouping is Mr Charles Molapo, a former Information Minister, who resigned from the Cabinet and the ruling Basotho National Party (BNP) last year over the opening of Russian, North Korean and Chinese embassies in Maseru.

According to Mr Chaolane and Mr Mofolo, another defector from the BNP, who also attended the Pretoria meeting, Mr Botha was given an assurance that if the UDA came to power, it would expel the communist embassies and ban communism in Lesotho and set up a government of national reconciliation.

In return, they say, Mr Botha agreed to try to curb the activities of the Lesotho Liberation Army, a guerrilla group believed to operate from South Africa under the direction of Mr Ntsu Mokhele, leader of an exiled faction of the BCP, who was cheated of power in 1970, when Chief Jonathan declared martial law in the middle of an election he was losing.

They also say Mr Botha agreed to provide money to buy five Land-Rovers for use in the remoter parts of this mountainous country during the campaign for elections to the National assembly which the government has promised to hold, possibly in November or December of this year. They would be the first since 1970.

"We see nothing wrong in asking South Africa for help," Mr Chaolane said. "In fact, we feel encouraged to do so, because Chief Jonathan did the same thing in the past."

This alludes to the fact that Chief Jonathan was helped into power with South African money and then helped by Pretoria to stay there after the 1970 coup, when the local paramilitary force, then commanded by a South African officer, crushed all opposition.

The Lesotho government's version of the Pretoria meeting goes somewhat further and claims there was also discusion of the need for the UDA to be ready to step into an "administrative vacuum" created by South African military intervention in the event that Chief Jonathan remained in power and the communist embassies were not removed.

It is common cause among all the Lesotho participants, however, that during the meeting Mr Botha gave a warning that Pretoria might have to act "in self-defence" if the communist embassies were deemed to be promoting the guerrilla activities of the banned African National Congress inside the Republic.

Tambo vows to step up war

Mr Oliver Tambo, leader of the African National Congress, has pledged to step up the war against South Africa despite the non-aggression pact between Pretoria and Maputo denying bases in Mozambique to his forces, Reuter reports from Harare. "We have made adjustments to our struggle since the recent peace accord and deployed more freedom fighters within South Africa to launch the final onslaught against the enemy", he said.

Soyuz links up with space craft in orbit

Moscow ((Reuter) – India's first cosmonaut and his two Soviet colleagues yesterday docked their Soyuz T11 spacecraft with the orbiting Salyuz 7 station, where three Soviet cosmonauts waited to greet them.

Docking took place on schedule as the Soyuz and Salyut craft were over the Black Sea, a former cosmonaut, Mr Alexander Alexandrov, said from mission control in Moscow.

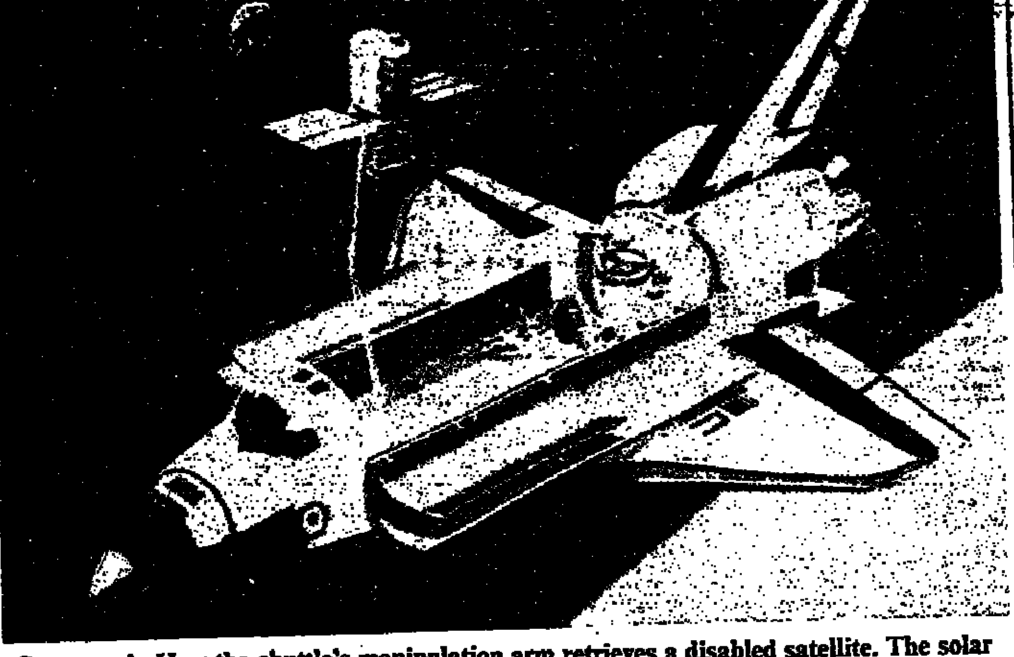
Colour pictures taken from Salyut 7 showed clear details of the approaching space craft. At the moment of contact, technicians and spectators at mission control stood and applauded.

Squadron Leader Rakesh Sharma was blasted into orbit on Tuesday with the mission commander, Colonel Yuri Malyshev, and Flight Engineer Gennady Strekalov amid publicity" unprecedented in the Soviet space programme.

It was the first time six people had been in orbit on board what is effectively the same vehicle – the Salyuz 7, the Soyuz T11 and a Soyuz T10 already attached to the space station.

Among those watching the television pictures of the docking in the space centre was Indian Defence Minister, Mr Ramaswami Venkataraman.

After docking, the cosmonauts began routine procedure to equalize pressure between the space craft and the station



Space grab: How the shuttle's manipulation arm retrieves a disabled satellite. The solar satellite is the first vehicle with a "remote grapple" for the arm to grab.

Shuttle's first rescue mission

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The crew of the next flight of the American Challenger spacecraft, to be launched on Friday, will conduct the first rescue mission in space. The astronauts will retrieve a scientific satellite which failed a few months after launch, and they will repair it in the cargo bay.

The vehicle to be recovered is called the Solar Maximum Mission which was put into orbit on February 14, 1980. Its control equipment failed when three fuses blew. Unfortunately the success of the experiment depended on its scientific equipment being pointed with great accuracy at the Sun for recording high-resolution images of the 11-year cycle of sunspots.

Once the fuses blew the satellite began tumbling out of control in space, and only two instruments with a wide angle view developed by American scientists have been of any use. Other equipment intended to look for bursts of X-rays associated with flares from the Sun was built for British astronomers of the Mullard Space Science Laboratory of University College, London, and the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, near Oxford.

However, to salvage the £50m satellite an astronaut has to move across the emptiness of space propelled by a nitrogen-jet operated packpack tested on the last journey, which was the twelfth flight in orbit in the shuttle programme. The astronaut has to clip a harness to the satellite and stabilize its motion by using the thrusters on the jet-pack.

Then the crew inside the Challenger can grab the satellite with the shuttle's robot manipulator arm and bring it into the cargo bay for maintenance. The satellite is rotating at about one revolution every six and a half minutes, but it is in an orbit 300 miles above the Earth which is higher than those in which the shuttle has worked previously.

'Active defence' needed

Four states backing terror, Shultz says

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, has accused Syria, Lybia, Iran and North Korea of involvement in "state-supported terrorism," which he described as a form of warfare. "It is more and more appropriate that the nations of the West face up to the need for active defence against terrorism," he said.

His warning comes at a time of urgent examination by the Administration of means of combatting terrorism, including the establishment of a quick reaction brigade within the American armed services. Mr Shultz said traditional methods of enhanced security and better intelligence were no longer adequate by themselves.

"It is increasingly doubtful that a purely passive strategy can even begin to cope with the problem," he continued. "This raises a host of questions for a free society. In what circumstances – and how – should we take preventive and preemptive action against known terrorist groups? What evidence do we insist upon before taking such steps?"

Mr Shultz, addressing a meeting of the Trilateral Commission, a group of prominent citizens of North America, Western Europe and Japan, said the United States was relatively well prepared to deter an all-out Soviet attack in Europe.

"But day in and day out we will continue to see a wide range of conflicts that fall in a grey area between major war and millennial peace. Terrorism – particularly state-supported terrorism – is already a contemporary weapon directed at America's interests, America's values and America's allies," he added.

Mr Shultz did not suggest specific ways of combatting terrorism. He said that once it became established that terrorism worked, that it achieved its political objectives, its practitioners would be bolder and the threat would be greater.

Basque party faces ban

From Richard Wigg Madrid

A Spanish administrative court has handed down a decision which will oblige the Government to decide whether it wants to try to ban the radical left-wing Basque nationalist party which backs the ETA separatist organization.

The government of Señor Felipe González now has 20 days in which to make up its mind and seek through the courts a declaration that the controversial Popular Unity is illegal.

Guinea coup pledge to restore liberty

From Susan MacDonald, Dakar

The West African state of Guinea yesterday appeared calm after Monday's military coup which was, according to official communiqués, the logical result of years of repression and corruption under the late President Sekou Touré, and designed to give the country liberty and democracy.

On the orders of the national radio station, people returned to work yesterday morning and telephone and telex lines were restored. However, the borders remained closed. Witnesses spoke of the military takeover being celebrated in the streets.

The members of the 18-man military Committee of National Reeovery, which appears to be in command, have been announced. The first name on the list is Colonel Lansana Konté. The committee consists of two colónels, five majors and lower-ranking officers. The five heads of the country's regions are captains.

Although communiqués emphasize that the coup has been staged by all the armed forces, the absence of senior officers points to a split within the military. The lower-level officers involved belong mainly to the Malink tribe from the northern highlands, as did President Sekou Touré.



Dr Beavogui: No mention of Sekou Touré successor.

Little is known about them and no mention has been made of the fate of the interim head of state, Dr Lansana Beavogui,

All political prisoners have been freed and it is thought that much may be made of the previous regime's harshness against political adversaries.

Political prisoners end Ankara hunger strike

From Rasit Gurdilek, Ankara

Hundreds of left-wing political prisoners yesterday called off a 42-day fast in the Mamak military prison here, which they had started in protest against beatings and prison conditions, a military court was told.

Mr Oguzhn Muftuoglu, a leading defendant in the mass trial against the underground Dev-Yol (Revolutionary Path) organization, told the court that the aim of the hunger strike had been to promote their demands for humane treatment in the prison and not to make political gains as had been suggested.

Although the prisoners apparently failed to win any concessions, the military judge expressed, in a conciliatory tone, his belief that the problems would be easier to solve with the fast now over.

But, in a separate trial, Mr Mustafa Kacaroglu, a ranking leader of the Kurtulus (Liberation) group, said he was determined to carry his fast to the end, with an undetermined number of his friends.

It was believed, however, that the vast majority of the prisoners had ended the fast in apparent disappointment that their action failed to rouse the public, which was left in the dark because of a strictly-enforced blackout on news of the protest.

The people were first informed of the hunger strike through a terse statement issued by the General Staff Headquarters on Monday, in which the fast was attacked as part of a propaganda campaign to embarrass Turkey at international forums, influence verdicts at trials, help organize pressure groups abroad and mislead foreign public opinion.

The statement, quoting the findings of a nine-man commission comprising high-ranking officers, army doctors and government officials, denied widespread use of torture or maltreatment at military prisons. But it conceded that, of 63,000 people imprisoned since the proclamation of martial law in December, 1978, 53 had died in prisons.

Of the deaths, 14 were suicides, 23 the result of various illnesses, two were due to torture and seven to hunger strikes. Seven more deaths were still being investigated, the statement said, and 80 officials, found responsible for "isolated cases of torture or maltreatment" had been punished

Mondale routs Hart in the shootout at the crossroads

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

New York was the big one, the turning point, and Mr Walter Mondale won it decisively.

It was the most important of the battles on the long road to the Democratic presidential nomination – and Mr Mondale must feel that the strong assault by Senator Gary Hart has been beaten off and that the prize is not within his grasp.

The score so far

Mr Mondale gets 137 delegates from the primary, according to incomplete returns, Mr Hart gets 76 and Mr Jackson 39. The overall delegate score is:

Mondale	864
Hart	514
Jackson	147
Uncommitted	322
Other	35

A candidate needs 1,967 delegates to secure the nomination.

It is extraordinary to think that three weeks ago Mr Mondale was close to obliteration and Mr Hart was surfing on a great wave of support. They met at the crossroads of New York – Mr Mondale, himself, called it the OK Corral shootout of the campaign – and the former Vice-President won 45 per cent of the vote to Mr Hart's 27 per cent.

Mr Mondale is well aware of the negative effects of being labelled the front-runner, and, in spite of his win by the largest margin in the campaign so far, refuses to claim the front-runner position, acknowledging that there is a long way to go to the convention in San Francisco. Mr Hart is hoping that his younger-generation appeal will keep him in the running in Pennsylvania, and that, in the longer term, the big scores in the western states will help him to rebound.

No wonder that Mr Mondale, flushed with triumph, confetti in his hair, faced his exuberant supporters in a Manhattan hotel and declared: "I love New York". It was a famous victory for the candidate criticized so often for being unexciting. It was a day of deep disappointment for the Colorado senator who promoted himself as the man of fresh and exciting ideas, the leader of the younger generation of better-off upwardly-mobile liberals.

At the same time, it was an historic day for the Rev Jesse Jackson, who ran a close third to Mr Hart, with 26 per cent of the poll, his highest vote in the campaign so far. Mr Jackson is a unique phenomenon in American politics: he has mobilized the black vote and changed and gingered the political atmosphere. In New York, he has dramatically increased his leverage.

Mr Mondale has been restored and rebuilt. It shows in his bearing. New York was a fight he had to win. Defeat would have all but finished him. All his organizational power was deployed and he had strong backing from unions, Jews, Catholics, Hispanics, older people and women.

The old-fashioned Democratic machine was behind him, with the powerful influences of Mayor Edward Kock of New York city and Governor Mario Cuomo of New York state. The traditonal network delivered.

Meanwhile, Mr Mondale banked on hs substance and experience – unexciting, perhaps, but dependable. He staked his solidity against Mr Hart's "new ideas" – and the latter plainly failed to get his message over. The voters did not find enough beef beneath the pie crust.

There must be considerable doubt about Mr Hart's ability to come back after this most significant of reverses. Mr *Mondale scored well among the* "yumpies" (the young, upwardly-mobile) professionals from whom Mr Hart has been drawing much support.

In the nasty little television war, Mr Mondale's famous "red telephone" commercial, suggesting that Mr Hart lacks the experience to handle dangerous situations, outpointed Mr Hart's "burning fuse" commercial which suggested that Mr Mondale's Central America policy would cost American lives.

Mr Hart spent a million dollars on television promotion in the New York primary, more than twice as much as Mr Mondale. Mr Jackson, incidentally, spent nothing on television. *"No cosmetics," he said.* "What you see is what you get."

New York state is worth 258 delegates at the Democratic national convention, the second highest number in the country after California.

Mr Mondale, confidence restored, must be regarded as "the man most likey to" as the contenders turn their attention to next week's Pennsylvania primary, where 195 delegates are at stake. This is an industrialized state, where union organization is strong, and the appeal to traditonal democratic party values should be successful. It ought to be Mondale country – tough going for Mr Hart.





Thumbs up: A grim-faced Senator Hart flanked by his jubilant opponents, Mr Mondale and Jesse Jackson.

Hearings on Grenada conspiracy open

St George's (AFP) – Preliminary hearings began yesterday into charges against 11 people of conspiracy to commit an act of terrorism in connexion with the deaths last October of the deposed Grenadian Prime Minister, Marice Bishop, and three of his ministers.

Those charged included Bernard Coard, the former Deputy Prime Minister, his wife Phyllis, former head of the national women's organization of the New Jewel Movement, and the former Army commander, General Hudson Austin.

Journalists held in Mauritius

Port Louis (Reuter) – Forty-three Mauritian journalists were charged with unlawful assembly and obstruction after demonstrating against a proposed press Bill, under which newspapers and periodicals would have to post a security bond of 500,000 (£27,000) before being allowed to publish.

The Prime Minister's office said the Bill aimed to give better protection to victims of defamatory articles, but many newspapers say the Government is seeking to curb press freedom.

Pacific island protests

Noumea, (AP) – Angry farmers, led by M Justin Guillemard, president of the extreme right-wing Caledonian Front, demonstrated when the French Secretary of State for Overseas Territories, M Georges Lemoine, began a visit to New Caledonia.

They were demanding an end to a scheme under which the Government buys land and redistributes it to the indigenous Melanesian population.

Flood deaths

Bahia (AFP) – Seven people have died and 2,000 have been left homeless in Bahia state, north-east Brazil, in floods caused by torrential rain after five years of drought, according to official figures.

Comoros charge

Perth (AP) – A former British soldier Walter John Pilgrim, appeared in court on charges of recruiting mercenaries in Australia to overthrow the Government of the Comoros Islands in 1982, on behalf of a former ruler of the islands.

Boycott call

New York (AFP) – African, Asian and Caribbean countries have been asked by the London-based South African Non-Racial Olympic Commitee to boycott the 1986 Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh if the England rugby union tour of South Africa goes ahead in May.

Commentary

Geoffrey Smith

Mr Water Mondale's massive victory in New York has taken him a very long way towards the Democratic nomination.

It is true that primaries have still to be held in such large states as Texas and California, which are expected *to be favourable territory for* Senator Gary Hart. But his campaign has been based upon a sense of excitement among the electorate and the enthusiasm of volunteers.

It needs to be sustained by its own momentum, and is not in good shape to withstand such a shattering defeat as this or such a significant setback as the loss of Illinois a fortnight ago. What is more, a sense is growing that Mr Mondale is the natural candidate.

Senator Hart's campaign rose on a myth, and to some extent it is declining on a myth. It was a myth that he had a *sackful of new ideas* ready to put into practice if only he could be let into the White House.

But it is also a myth that he has *nothing to say,* that he *represents only his own am*bition. He represents an approach to government that is distinct from both President Reagan's and Mr Mondale's.

It can justly be called the new liberalism because it involves seeking liberal purposes by new methods. It does not accept the necessity for the traditional liberal solutions of large spending programmes, big government and expanding trade union power. Above all, it is an attitude that favours experiment.

Point of view to be heard

This is a point of view that deserves to be heard. But there are doubts as to how thoroughly Senator Hart has thought it through. The longer this campaign has gone on, the less ready he has seemed for the presidency.

Every time I have heard him and Mr Mondale together on the same occasion I have thought after 10 minutes that Mr Hart should be the candidate. His style is so much livelier. He has potentially the air of elegance and authority that goes well with high office.

By contrast, Mr Mondale tends to be boring – especially until he warms up. Yet each time I have concluded after 20 minutes that he would be the better choice. He speaks like a man who is thinking of being President, not just of how he could be elected.

One may not like all the positions he has taken. One may fear that he has made too many commitments to be able *to hold the line effectively* against trade protection, even if he wants to; that he owes too many favours to the trade unions; and that his attachment to many of the traditional spending programmes may be *too great to enable him to cut* the budget deficit as he would wish.

Yet one does get the impression of a man who has considered carefully what it would mean to be in the White House.

Sensitive to responsibilities

This quite often reinforces his natural caution, so that he becomes even less exciting. But it is reassuring to find a candidate who is sensitive to the responsibilities of office before he has been elected, and who is therefore usually – though by no means always – wary of peddling simplistic policies.

It is still more reassuring to find the American electorate voting for a candidate because most people think he would make a better President than his rival.

The fear that is most often expressed about the modern American nominating process with its plathora of primaries, is that it is liable to favour meretricious candidates. But there is nothing flashy about Mr Mondale.

He is a solid, essentially responsible, not very inspiring but highly professional politician, who knows how he would try to conduct a presidency.

Time and again during these past three weeks I have heard people say that althouth they think Mr Mondale would be the better President, they intended to vote for Senator Hart because they believe he stood the stronger chance of defeating Mr Reagan. It is good that that view has not prevailed in New York.

Even if Mr Mondale would not be a good president, it is politically healthy that people should be voting for him because they think he might be.

Stubborn Mitterrand refuses to give in on steel cuts

From Diana Geddes, Paris

President Mitterrand made clear yesterday that the French Government has no intention of going back on its much contested plans to restructure the steel industry. But he promised that there would be no compulsory redundancies among the 21,000 to 27,000 workers whose jobs will have to go.

In a wide-ranging press conference lasting nearly two hours, only the third since he came to power nearly three years ago, President Mitterrand insisted that the country was faced by a stark choice; either to make itself capable of confronting international competition, thereby ensuring its prosperity and independence, or to go into an economic decline.

It was his "duty" (the catchword of his press conference) to take the former course. The Government could not keep subsidizing industries which were perpetually in the red. Indeed, in the case of steel, the European Community had ruled that no public subsidies would be allowed after 1987. Yet the French steel industry was losing 10 billion francs (£870m) a year which the Government was having to finance.

A plan had to be made to bring the industry's accounts into balance over the next four years. The plan would involve expenditure of a further 27 billion to 30 billion francs by 1987, in addition to the 17 billion francs already spent between 1981 and 1983, he said.

He knew it was difficult, almost unbearable, for the workers involved. He understood their anger. The Government must now explain its action and appeal to the good sense and reason of the workers and to the national interest. "I know my duty and I must fulfil it", he said.

M Mitterrand promised that any steelworker who lost his job would either be eligible for early retirement or for "retraining leave", under which he would be able to undergo retraining for up to two years while continuing to receive 80 per cent of his former net salary, before taking up a new job.

The Government was taking other measures to help create new industries and new jobs in the areas concerned, he added.

The Government had not changed its policies, M Mitterrand said, in an evident reference to the criticisms of the Communist Party. "It is the same policy (as before) with the same objectives, but different obstacles are involved for which different action is required."

Throughout his opening speech, he repeatedly made particular reference to Lorraine where a general strike was in force yesterday in protest against the Government's steel plans. Lorraine would benefit from the special measures the Government was introducing, he said, adding with emotion: "Who does not have Lorraine in their heart?"

But soothing words may not be enough to placate the workers who have grown sceptical of Government promises which remain unfulfilled or are even reversed. The first reaction from the Communist-led CGT union, was that there was nothing fundamentally new in M Mitterrand's comments on the crisis in the steel industry.

The "hot" topic of the Communists' continued participation in the Government, in the light of their ever-increasing attacks on Government policies, did not come until questions were permitted in the second half of the press conference. But M Mitterrand immediately sidestepped the issue, saying simply that it was "time to clarify the situation," without explaining what action, if any, he intended to take.

"I listen, I observe, and I see that a new situation has been created on account of a different reading of the undertakings given (in the June, 1981, pact between the Socialist and Communist parties)," he said.

My aim remains the same. I want to assemble all the popular forces in the country, but not at any price. Not at the price of seeing the Government's effort undermined in the minds of the public," he added. He refused to be drawn any further.

President Mitterrand: Soothing words

Lorraine paralysed by general strike

From Our Own Correspondent, Paris

Lorraine, the region worst affected by the Government's plan for restructuring the French steel industry, was paralysed yesterday by a general strike called in sympathy with the steelworkers, many thousands of whose jobs are threatened.

Roads, railway lines and border posts with Belgium, West Germany and Luxembourg were blocked by barricades of burning tyres and strip metal. Aircraft were prevented from taking off from Nancy. Shops kept their blinds down. All public offices closed. Pickets made sure no one entered the factories, and all public transport stopped.

Only the fire brigade,the ambulance service, journalists and a few cafés were given dispensation from the general strike order. The police were also, of course, on duty and in force, but they tried to keep a low *profile* during the mass demonstrations in the main towns in the afternoon.

An official of the communist-led CGT union said that union members were "ready for anything". They would do their utmost to ensure there were no clashes with the police, he said, but just in case they had equipped themselves with fire bombs, bottles of acid, slings, pickaxe handles and shields.

At midday, all the church bells rang out in an expression of sympathy with the steelworkers. The bishops of Metz and Nancy, who had given permission for the bells to be rung, put out a statement saying that the human consequences of the Government's steel plans would be "heavy with fear and suffering".

"Everywhere we go, we find situations of distress. Cries of anguish come to us from all sides", they said. "The understandable anger could degenerate into serious violence."

M André Bergeron, General Secretary of the independent Force Ouvrière union, also expressed his fears of an industrial relations explosion

Delhi strike over Sikh extremism

Delhi (AFP) – Police arrested nearly 200 people here yesterday as Hindus launched a day-long general strike to protest against killings blamed on Sikh militants in the state of Punjab.

The authorities increased security and banned public gatherings at the main pro-Hindu opposition parties increased pressure on the Central Government to deal firmly with Sikh extremists in Punjab.

Police reported minor clashes, brick-throwing incidents and attempts to deflate bus tyres in the densely populated walled city of Old Delhi and in western districts.

In Old Delhi, more than 130 supporters of the pro-Hindu Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) which called yesterday's general strike, took to the streets demanding firm action against Sikh extremists and the resignation of Mrs Indira Gandhi's Government for its "inability to save innocent lives".

There was no violence, but all the demonstrators were arrested for violating prohibitory orders.

Forty supporters of the Lok Dal party were taken into custody when theytried to stage a 24-hour sit-in outside Mrs Gandhi's official residence in defiance of prohibitory orders.

The strike, called in protest at the recent killing of the BJP's Punjab unit president, Mr Harbans Lal Khanna, in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar on Monday, was given partial support in Delhi, but press reports said support was almost total in the Hindu-dominated Haryana state which borders Punjab.

Twenty-five people have been killed over the past four days in Punjab where militant Sikhs are pressing for greater autonomy and other political and religious concessions. Their campaign has left more than 400 people dead in the past 21 months.

● CHANDIGARH: This territory, which serves as the joint capital of the states of Punjab and Haryana, was declared a disturbed area yesterday after a day-long general strike against Sikh extremist attacks (AP reports). On Tuesday Mrs Gandhi had declared the whole of Punjab a "dangerously disturbed" area.

Exercise may include simulated attack

Soviet fleet close to 'nuclear war' phase

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

The Soviet Union, which during the past week has had its largest-ever assembly of naval forces in the North Atlantic, may now be preparing for the final phase of the exercise, which could involve a simulated nuclear attack.

The 30 surface fighting ships, probably accompanied by about 20 nuclear and diesel-powered submarines, were yesterday reported by Nato to have withdrawn north of the Arctic circle, and to be heading north-east.

This could imply that they were heading back in the direction of the Kola peninsula, where most of the vessels have their bases.

However, such exercises usually conclude with simulated nuclear warfare. This would involve exercising the command and control procedures leading up to firing nuclear missiles from submarines in Yankee and Delta classes.

On Tuesday it appeared that the Societ forces were mainly rehearsing methods of anti-submarine warfare. Yesterday a Nato statement said the fleet focused on simulating attacks on the Russian ships by land-based Backfire and Badger bombers.

There has been speculation that for the first time a new Typhoon class nuclear submarine bearing ballistic missiles may have been involved. With about a 25,000-ton displacement, this is the largest submarine in the world, and the first of this class is thought to be about ready for deployment.

Although Nato sources did not rule out the possible involvement of a Typhoon submarine, there is understood not to be any direct evidence of its presence with the Soviet forces.

The Russian activities continued to be monitored by Nato ships and maritime patrol aircraft.

Nato urges Russians to come back and talk

Cesme, Turkey (AFP) – Nato Defence Ministers yesterday urged the Soviet Union to return "without preconditions and without delay" to negotiations in Geneva on limiting nuclear weapons.

In the final communique of the *thirty-fifth annual* meeting of the Nato nuclear planning group, the ministers "regretted that the Soviet Union had not yet agreed to a date for the resumption of the strategic arms reduction talks (Start) and *that it* had as yet refused to proceed with the intermediate range nuclear forces (INF) negotiations."

"With the full support of the allies, the United States has been and remains ready to resume both sets of negotiations at any time," the communique said.

The Soviet Union last *autumn* suspended *its* participation in the Start and INF talks after Nato began deployment in western Europe of the US-made intermediate-range nuclear missiles.

The ministers spoke in the communique of the Alliance's decision last year for a "substantial reduction" over the next five years in the number of warheads in Nato's European arsenal.

They said a *total* of 2,400 warheads had been eliminated, with 1,000 removed in 1979 and 1,400 last year. This brought Nato's nuclear potential in Europe to "the lowest level in over 20 years," the minister said.

Expressing "concern that in contrast the Soviet build-up is continuing relentlessly at all levels," they said that the Soviet Union now has 378 SS20 missile launchers installed.

At the meetings in this western Turkish town, the ministers also discussed a *possible refusal* by The Netherlands to deploy 48 cruise missiles, as provided for in a Nato decision of 1979. The Dutch government is divided over the deployment.

Primate home from triumphant tour of Caribbean stressing unity theme

By Clifford Longley Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, returned to London yesterday after a month-long tour of the West Indies, the longest and most strenous he has made. He visited 12 islands and eight dioceses, and made over 50 addresses and sermons. It was Dr Runcies's eighth visit overseas in the past year.

Mr Terry Waite, the archbishop's adviser on Anglican Communion affairs who was by his side throughout the latest visit, said Dr Runcie had been received with enthusiasm almost everywhere he went, the one exception being Guyana where his official reception was "sober."

The Guyana Government regards the Anglian church there as one of its principal critics, particularly over civil rights issues.

Elsewhere it had sometimes been almost a royal progress, with happy crowds lining the streets packed and jubilant congregations in the churches he visited.

Dr Runcie's theme in his addresses was "unity" – the unity of the churches, of the people in the nation, and of the Caribbean. The welcome he recieved had been marked repeatedly by a strong ecumenical flavour, with the leaders of other churches playing a full part in events.

The archbishop had talks with heads of state and heads of government in each place visited.

In Grenada he requested a visit to the prison where political detainees were being held, and spoke to all of them. Later he told the administration there that he was concerned about delays in ringing them to trial, and according to Mr Waite met a sympathetic reponse.

The archbishop felt his visit had given him new insights into the situation of West Indians in Britain, and it is understood he is likely to refer to this later.

During the visit he met British troops in Belize, and in Trinidad he was sked to inaugurate a joint Anglican-Roman Catholic project by cutting the first turf.

He was said to have been impressed by the extent of cooperation and good will between the churches, though he several times criticized the so-called "electronic evangelist" who are a growing phenomenon in the West Indies – television fundamentalist preachers in the American pattern, described by Dr Runcie as offering "short cuts."

Green chiefs: (from left) Christa Nickels, Waltrand Schoppe, Antje Vollmer (front), Annemarie Borgmann, Heidi Dann, Erika Hickel

Women sweep the board in Green party election

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Three women have been elected to lead the West German Greens' parliamentary faction, but Frau Petra Kelly, one of the best-known figures in the movement, has been ousted from her post.

After a heated debate lasting eight hours the 27 members of the party elected Waltruad Schoppe, Antje Vollmer and Annemarie Borgmann to be the three joint speakers of the parliamentary group, and three other women to be the party's business managers. The Greens thus become the first party to be headed entirely by women.

For the first year of their parliamentary existence the Greens were led by Frau Kelly, Marie-Luise Beck-Oberdorf and Otto Schily. But none was reelected, and each was strongly criticized for the personality clashes and political squabbles that have plagued the party recently.

Frau Kelly has come close to an open break with the party she helped to found, but has nevertheless remained a charismatic figure in the country

China tells Vietnam to 'cease provocation'

By Our Foreign Staff

China has told Vietnam to cease "all provocative acts" along their common border immediately or Chinese forces will again strike back, a Chinese Government spokesman said yesterday.

The Chinese Government had warned the Vietnamese authorities that they should stop immediately all provocative acts on the Chinese border. Otherwise they will be held responsible for the consequences, a Foreign Ministry spokesman told reporters. "Our principle is we will not attack unless we are attacked, and if we are attacked we will certainly counter-attack."

He accused Hanoi of creating trouble along the Sino-Vietnamese border to divert world opinion from increased Vietnamese military activity in Cambodia and particularly along the frontier with Thailand.

The spokesman said China wanted friendship with Hanoi and had worked hard to safeguard peace and stability along the frontier But Vietnam had recently launched a series of armed provocations along the border.

Meanwhile, Hanoi yesterday accused China of firing thousands of shells into Vietnam and demanded an immediate end to such acts.

In Bangkok, a Thai military spokesman said Thailand and Vietnam had moved up reinforcements yesterday.





Strike breakers: Security guards (left) tackle a union picket at the Las Vegas Hilton Hotel, and a showgirl fills in for striking resort workers by serving a drink to a tourist at the MGM Grand Hotel.

Poles on trial sent for cancer checks

From Roger Boyes
Warsaw

Polish defence lawyers yesterday appealed for the immediate release from prison of two women dissidents, including a leading human rights activist Miss Anna Walentynowicz, because they were seriously ill.

The presiding judge at the Katowice court ruled that the trial of the two women and a third defendant, Mr Kazimierz Switon, a union campaigner, should be adjourned for a day to allow tests to be carried out in a prison hospital.

Miss Walentynowicz, the defence counsel said was suffering from cancer. Miss Ewa Tomaszewska was weakenened by diabetes – an eyewitnss at the trial said that she sat slumped throughout the hearing as if asleep – and Mr Switon had cancer-related problems.

Mr Switon has been allowed to live at home pending the trial, but the two women have been held in jail since they were arrested at a demonstration on December 4.

On that occasion, a group of some 30 Solidarity sympathizers – including 10 from the Gdansk shipyards – had tried to lay a plaque commemorating workers killed by police at the Wujek colliery three days after the declaration of martial law on December 13, 1981. Brandishing the plaque, they marched towards the perimeter fence, but a ring of riot police blocked their way and fights broke out.

The charges against the three – including incitement to public unrest and resisting arrest – arise out of that incident. They face possibl jail terms of at least three years.

Miss Walentynowicz was for a long time a crane driver in the Gdansk shipyards and and early associate of Mr Lech Walsea. Dismissed for her human rights campaigning, her reinstatement was one of the first demands of the strikers in July, 1980.

After martial law she was interned without trial, but following her release continued her activities for Solidarity. She was arrested, released under amnesty, then re-arrested after the demonstration outside the Wujek mine.

Mr Switon was a founder of the Silesian free trades unions. A devout catholic, he argued for a form of christian democracy within Solidarity and has been involved in a number of protests against martial law

The court will meet again today to decide how the illness of the defendenats will affect the course of the trial.

Forced into exile 'by ambitious soldiers'

Ousted Honduran general absolves US of blame

From Martha Honey
San José, Costa Rica

The ousted Honduran military chief, General Gustavo Alvarez, said he had been forced into exile by disloyal and ambitious soldiers and did not believe the United States was behind his removal.

In his first public appearance since being deported to Costa Rica last Saturday, the general said he had not been plotting a coup against President Roberto Suazo Córdova and had not embezzled government money.

Looking tense but speaking with authority, he said he had been given warning twice by the Honduran Ambassador to Costa Rica that the Military High Command did not want him to make any public statement because he was still on active duty". The general snapped: "I give orders to my subordinates, I do not take them."

In setting the rules for the press conference, Costa Rica, which had received General Alvarez as a somewhat unwelcome guest, said he could not say anything "subversive" which might antagonize the Honduran or Nicaraguan governments.

As military chief, the general had facilitated the rapid build-up of US forces in Honduras, given free reign in the border region to anti-Sandinista guerrillas fighting the Nicaraguan Government and advocated aggressive action against neighbouring Nicaragua.

Many diplomats here argue that the dramatic changes in Honduras could not have been effected without the knowledge and approval of America. They speculate that the US may have discovered that General Alvarez was plotting a coup and, to prevent a military takeover of the fragile civilian government, moved to avert it.

The general said he had been "violently" forced out of the country, although he denied that a gun had been held at his head. He explained that on Saturday morning he was taken prisoner by troops loyal to the Air Force Commander, General Walter López Reyes. "I was captured by order of the Air Force," he said.

Asked if he thought the United States had a hand in his removal, he said: "I can only tell you that during my administration I had the best of relations with the US military. Only time will tell (but) I personally don't believe so."

He said the other ousted generals were removed arbitrarily from power by an illegitimate authority. "I am the constitutional chief of the armed forces and the only one who can order changes in the Honduran military structure."

Officer discontent led to shake-up

From Alan Tomlinson
Tegucigalpa



The abrupt removal from power of General Gustavo Alvarez and other heads of the Honduan armed forces was the product of a barracks coup by discontented fellow-officers, according to political sources close to the Army.

The civilian Government of President Roberto Suazo Córdova seized the opportunity to depict last Saturday's rebellion as the triumph of constitutional democracy over the powerful Honduran military, which until two years ago had ruled the country by one means or another since 1963.

But, informed political sources believe it is unlikely that the President had any part in instigating General Alvarez's downfall, although it is unclear at what stage he threw in his hand with the mutineers.

US officials have been doing their utmost to assert President Suazo's responsibility for events, in order to reinforce the image of Honduras as a stable democracy worthy of becoming a model for Central America.

A senior US official said President Suazo was "fully appraised and advised" of the situation on Saturday, but Honduran observers insist this was only after General Alvarez had been arrested, forced to sign a prepared resignation, and flown into exile in Costa Rica.

Some sources say, the President was presented with a *fait accompli* and given the choice of either taking advantage of the situation by assuming titular control of the armed forces under the provisions of the Constitution or joining the general in exile.

Diplomatic sources believe the conspirators would not have risked removing the general without seeking the President's prior approval since a coup without at least the appearane of constitutional legitimacy could have cost them the full support of the US Government.

As it was, US officials were able to avoid embarrassment by asserting there had been no constitutional crisis or anything amounting to a coup, but simply "an internal restructuring" of the Army.

However, at least seven other senior commanders closest to General Alvarez are understood to have been put under house arrest, including the Joint Chief of Staff, the Chief of Police, the head of army intelligence, the naval commander, the chief of land forces, and a former head of the secret police. Several have also signed resignations.

Informed Honduran sources said a group of about 20 brigade commanders, led by the Air Force commander General Walter López, moved against the general to preempt a purge of officers whose loyalty he suspected.

The principal cause of discontent with the general had been his departure from a tradition of consensus in the decision-making procedures of the armed forces in favour of his own autocratic brand of leadership, carried out through his closest aides, known as the Group of Iron.

US officials, who appeared to have been caught off balance by the unexpected rush of events, said they did not envisage any dramatic change of policy towards American plans

Peking assures Hongkong on Jardine's move

From Our Correspondent
Vienna

Jardine Matheson's decision to move its legal base from Hongkong to Bermuda was no reason to think that China would not guarantee Hongkong's future prosperity and stability, Mr Wu Xueqian, the Chinese Foreign Minister, said in Vienna yesterday.

At a press conference at the end of three-day trip to the Austrian capital, Mr Xueqian said that recent negotiations with Britain over the colony's future had been particularly hopeful and he characterized the British position as cooperative.

As long as Britain recognized that the issue of Hongkong's sovereignty was not negotiable there was no grounds for thinking that there would not be a speedy conclusion to the talks, he said.

UN on hand as Cocos Islands vote on status

From Tony Duboudin
Melbourne

A United Nations delegation of four has left Perth for the Cocos Islands to oversee a vote tomorrow by the largely Malay inhabitants of the Indian Ocean islands on their future status.

About 170 Cocos Island Malays and Mr and Mrs John Clunies-Ross, descendants from the family that has ruled the islands since the 1830s', are eligible to vote.

The options in the referendum are independence. Free association with Australia, or integration with Australia. The islanders are expected to vote for full integration.

Fifteen Australian officials will help to supervise or observe this act of free choice. They will include officials from the Department of Territories and Local Government.

Age and despair drive out the Pathan patriarch

From Hasan Akhtar
Islamabad

Perhaps the best known public figure in the north-west of the Indian subcontinent after Mahatma Gandhi, has left Pakistan for neighbouring Afghanistan, which often served as his second home.

Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, aged 95, ill with chronic arthritis, who led his Pathan people for more than 60 years, was warmly received on Sunday at the Torkhum border post, about 30 miles from Peshawar, by Afghan soldiers and officials.

Successive Pakistan regimes treated the old Khan, affectionately called Sarhadi (Frontier) Gandhi by his devotees, as a political outcast because the wisdon of establishing Pakistan, a state carved out of Mother India. He regarded partition as a creation of British imperialism.

Khan Ghaffar Khan was, in his own words, a pathetically disillusioned man. He spent most of his life behind bars or in exile. He decided to leave Pakistan because he said he had lost hope of ever leading the Pathans to retrieve their honour and dignity.

He was disappointed with his people – once regarded ad the most proud and gallant – because they had been corrupted by money and power. Like Gandhi, Khan Ghaffar Khan believed in non-violence and service to those regarded the "scum of the earth".

As hundreds of his tearful followers in Pakistan bade farewell to him at the border, Afghan soldiers greeted him with slogans. But it is doubtful that the aged Pathan leader will receive the same traditional respect and hospitality in Kabul which was often accorded to him before the Soviet military intervention.



Khan Ghaffar Khan: The Gandhi of the north-west.

ADVERTISEMENT

"I am a Tory, and I have been brought up as a Tory, and I believe that the burden of proof is upon the man who advocates change, and if he does not satisfy that burden of proof then change should not be made." PATRICK JENKIN, CONSERVATIVE PARTY CONFERENCE, 10 OCTOBER 1983.

SHOULDN'T MINISTERS PRACTISE WHAT THEY PREACH?

As Environment Secretary Patrick Jenkin tries to force through his proposed abolition of the metropolitan county councils, he seems to have forgotten the statement that he made at last year's Conservative Party Conference.

The fact is that the Government hasn't even attempted to prove the case for dismantling the metropolitan county councils.

Its White Paper, "Streamlining the Cities" is the blueprint for abolition. The architect is Mr Jenkin, who has not produced a shred of evidence, nor a single fact to support his proposals.

Originally, his main argument was that the metropolitan county councils were "a wasteful and unnecessary tier of government" which should be abolished as quickly as possible.

Mr Jenkin claimed that the abolition plans were "the most carefully thought out part of the Government's manifesto," and he was confident enough to predict "savings of up to £120 million a year."

However, the Minister's subsequent statements would indicate that the Government's whole thinking on abolition has been grossly inadequate.

Initially he promised: "If we don't achieve substantial savings when this exercise is completed, I shall have failed." (October 1983).

Then in November of the same year he claimed: "I do consider that savings of upwards of £100 million annually could be made, but that is no more than a broad estimate." (November 1983).

Five days later he announced: "I am beginning to recognise my wisdom in not plucking figures out of the air, because had I done so I might have underestimated the savings that could be achieved." (November 1983).

He also said: "Savings will depend entirely on final, detailed decisions" of the successor authorities. (November 1983).

(One does wonder how he arrived at this conclusion when it is he who would control the budgets of the new joint boards which would inherit most of the metropolitan county councils' current expenditure).

Completing his shift of ground, the Minister declared: "Expenditure issues are not central to the case for abolition." (December 1983).

FLYING IN THE FACE OF FACT.

The truth, of course, is that abolition would cost, not save, the ratepayers money.

Coopers and Lybrand Associates is a top independent management and financial consultancy (often used by the Government itself). They pronounced the case for change both "overstated and misleading." They also concluded that: "There are unlikely to be any net savings as a result of the Government's proposed changes, and there could be significant extra costs."

Surprisingly, Mr Jenkin claimed that their report supported his views, although Coopers and Lybrand made it clear that the transitional cost of re-organisation could be as high as £240 million. Which would mean ratepayers having to find up to £61 million more every year to pay for exactly the same services.

But it isn't just the financial arguments that are ringing in Mr Jenkin's ears. The Government has received responses from some 3,000 third parties, and criticism has come from groups of all political persuasions.

From commerce and industry, professional bodies, academic institutions and individuals.

Respondents have expressed major concern about the inevitable inefficiency of Mr Jenkin's proposed new local government structure, which they feel would quickly lead to a reduction in the levels and quality of services, as well as an increase in costs for providing them. Not to mention the elimination of direct accountability for these services.

Even those who have expressed some support for re-organisation, have warned that this further major upheaval should only be contemplated if there is a certainty of significant savings to the ratepayers.

In fact, it does appear that the majority say Mr Jenkin's proposals are wrong, either in whole or in part. Hardly surprising therefore, that the Minister has been reluctant to make public the views so widely expressed.

The metropolitan county councils do not claim that the present local government structure should be above change.

What they do claim however, is the right to a fair hearing, through a full and independent inquiry, to determine what changes might be beneficial.

How can Mr Jenkin disagree, when he believes that "the burden of proof is upon the man who advocates change."



THE METROPOLITAN COUNTY COUNCILS OF GREATER MANCHESTER, MERSEYSIDE, SOUTH YORKSHIRE, TYNE AND WEAR, WEST MIDLANDS AND WEST YORKSHIRE.

For further information write to The Chief Executive, G.M.C., County Hall, Manchester, M60 3HP

Rise of Labour's town hall realist

The Times Profile
David Blunkett

"The old left-right split is dead. It's young and old now, and youth has already won hands down."

On the face of it, an enthusiastic comment from a leading London proponent of the new, Kinnock-led Labour Party, unremarkable except that it was made by a former left-wing Campaign for Labour Party Democracy activist and Tony Benn campaigner. The remark referred to David Blunkett, the Sheffield city council leader who has risen, in the half year since Labour's "pick ourselves up off the ground" annual conference, to become a key figure on the party's national executive.

He has already succeeded in persuading the NEC to create a new full committee on local government, and been elected its first chairman. He is seen by weary partisans of right and left who have exhausted their will for infighting as one of the energetic young Turks whose task is to rebuild Labour's image before the next election.

Popular among constituency workers, who elected him as the first non-MP in the section on the NEC for more than 30 years, he is still recognized by the public only as the blind man who happens to lead the capital of South Yorkshire's red republic, and seems to have an annual engagement in Sir Robin Day's "Question Time". This lack of close public scrutiny has so far served him well, enabling him to ascend without being tainted by press oprobrium or making enemies in the national Labour offices. It has also concealed the vast difference between him and other high-profile Labour council leaders such as Ken Livingstone and Derek Hatton.

Blunkett's view of socialism is more deeply rooted in Methodism than in Marx, in municipal realism rather than in vanguard militancy. His mentors are not revolutionary theorists. Though he instituted a Karl Marx memorial lecture each year in Sheffield, his third son was christened Keir,

Blindness conceals driving ambition

as a second name, after Keir Hardie, and if he looks up to anyone it is to the Sheffield town hall Labour fathers of the 1930s.

The blindness with which he has been afflicted since birth has concealed a driving ambition, impelled to a great extent by a lifetime spent in fighting institutions to prove that he is greater than his handicap. When I met him in the House of Commons last week he wanted to sit in the public gallery for a few minutes to hear the debate on the Rate Bill. We were stopped at the entrance, and told that his guide dog, a cross-breed called Ted, could not enter. "It's the rule", said the attendant. "What are rules for if we can't change them?" Blunkett retorted. "They will have to change it one day, and it won't be up here – it'll be on the floor."

He is indeed expected to go to Parliament at the next election, taking the seat in Brightside, Sheffield, which Miss Joan Maynard will, it is thought, vacate, and he is reported to have told Neil Kinnock that it is not worth his entering the Commons without being promised a junior front bench seat.

His handicap has helped create a character both democratic and dictatorial, suffering no fools, yet quickly kind, and witty. Ted is often used as an object for deflatary jokes, such as greeting the end of a long-winded committee bore's speech with the remark: "I'm afraid the dog's gone to sleep."

Council officers are daily infuriated by the hundreds of memos he dictates each week and summarily dispatches by a secretary rich in tolerance. Yet visitors, from council tenants to company directors, are charmed by his disarmingly sensible persuasion, and often leave him wondering what complaint they had intended to make.

The astounding memory, commonly found among self-educated blind people is used in committee rooms to stun opponents, who, struggling to find a report paragraph, hear him quote it verbatim without touching the braille notes by his side. Prodigious preparation lies behind this sharpness. His wife Ruth, and secretary Valda, dictate ever-increasing numbers of documents on to tape, which he absorbs on the bus ride to his town hall office or the train

He will have to tell unpalatable truths

to London, or on weekend walks in the Peak District. It is not widely known, however, even to close political colleagues, that he keeps a Crossman-like diary in which he notes his thoughts and happenings that interest him.

A team of officials, nicknamed "the politburo" by Sheffield's Tory opposition, and funded by the attendance allowances handed over by Blunkett and three other leading councillors, conduct his research. One of them, Geoff Green, was the main scribe behind the Fabian Society pamphlet published last year, *Building From the Bottom Up*, which outlined his core philosophy of community participation in politics.

He freely concedes admiration for Margaret Thatcher, ascribing to her a transformation of social values. His dream, however, is to reverse them, and commitment to that vision is the fountain of his platform popularity. As one London associate, who has come to know him only recently, put it: "David is going to have to tell some unpalatable home truths eventually, and the left will find that he is not so far off centre." In fact the blend of radicalism and traditionalism is so mercurial that he can swing either way.

Every policy he has is traceable to a rejection of the belief that the electorate is, at heart, apathetic and apolitical. He despises welfarism, the notion that people should be told and given what is good for them, which he considers has sapped the strength of Labour's appeal. This implies a belief that, social democracy is an innate impulse in the British soul, which needs only to be wakened by encouraging people to partake in deciding the course of their lives. It is, therefore, initially important that council tenants should have a say in what colour their doors are painted, because that will lead inexorably to their demanding a say in what their local council spends, and then what government spends, and finally, on what they spend it.

By turning everyone into effective activists he hopes they will be persuaded to nuclear unilateralism, worker control, and become convinced of the European Economic Community's uselessness. He is intensely critical of the trade union lack of democracy, but finds feminism a diversion.

His crucial test will come when, as figurehead of the group of Labour authorities who are fighting rate-capping legislation through the Local Government Campaign Unit, he decides how to react to the limits set on the councils by Environment Minister Patrick Jenkin.

While continuing his verbal assault on the Government, Blunkett is most likely to argue for all the threatened councils collectively to offer a deal with it. One of his Sheffield colleagues said: "David has seen Liverpool, looked over the edge, and decided it's not for him. He couldn't articulate, because it hurts, but it is not his style – he must carry everone with him."

In fact, he has a historical connexion with Derek Hatton, the militant leader at Liverpool. Mr Hatton was a community worker on the Kelvin flats in Sheffield when Blunkett was chairman of social services, and the chairman spent many hours fighting off demands by Roy Hattersley's councillor mother, Enid, that the rebellious social worker to be sacked.

In focusing on primarily local goverment issues, Blunkett has avoided identifying with the personality battles in Labour's recent history, but will soon face some tough choices on who will become his allies. Although he supported the Tony Benn campaigners on party democracy, he will not work alongside established left-wingers like Eric Heffer, or Joan Maynard from his home city. On the NEC he works closely with the new soft left ascendants like Michael Meacher and Tom Sawyer of Nupe, but has long dissociated himself politically from right-wingers like Roy Hattersley, who was brought up in Sheffield and often returns. Outside Parliament, his closest contact through the local government lobby is Margaret Hodge, leader of the left-wing Islington council. By being unassociated with partisan Bennism, but firmly supportive of the Benn platforms on accountability, Mr Blunkett is well adapted to walk straight into the Kinnock camp.

Born on D-day anniversary, June 6, 1947, to parents who had re-married in their fifties, the boy's political education began with personal tragedy.

He married a girl he met at chapel

His father was severely burnt in a gas explosion at work, and died after several weeks, aged 67.

His mother faced the bleak prospects of bringing up an already "awkward customer" (his own words), without compensation and on a widow's pension. The 12-year-old was sent to a boarding school for the blind near Shrewsbury where piano-tuning, lathe-turning, and office skills were the only options. He chose the third, learning braille shorthand and studying at the local technical college for O-levels in his evening spare time. On returning to Sheffield, gas board officials, sympathetic over his father's death, gave him a dogsbody job, which he repaid by becoming "the most naive shop steward imaginable". His employers, however, also enabled him to gain a national certificate in business studies on block release, and he continued evening classes to pass three A-levels and gain admission to Sheffield University to study politics.

He married the girl he met at his Methodist chapel as soon as she left school, and became the youngest-ever Sheffield councillor at 22. Estranged at university by his age, handicap, and distaste for the trivial concerns of his fellow students, he took little part in campus politics. He had gone there to study under the Orwell biographer Bernard Crick. Their views on the task ahead now for Labour are almost identical.

At 32 already one of the city's most experienced politicians, he became, four years ago, leader of the council, after having been elected chairman of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities' social services committee. "He

Taken a long way by indomitability

may be young, but David has thought longer and harder than many politicians 20 years older than himself", is the judgment of one NEC member.

Though his skill in the delicate balancing act of holding together his local party is evident, the strain of leading two lives, one in London and the other at his home base, is beginning to tell. He finds it hard to delegate decisions, and relaxation almost unbearable. His wife, who is further left politically than her husband, often finds their annual cheap package sunshine holiday with their three sons (Tenerife this year) is a time to repair rifts that may have arisen. "Like most males, he thought he was not getting the attention he should", she once said.

His only short breaks in working time are with fellow councillors, taking long walks in the Lake District, or along Dorset beaches, and he occasionally finds time to lose himself in classical music, Delius being a favourite.

He sees his half-sister, Doreen who sat on the Social Democrats' steering committee in Sheffield when the party was founded, but rarely visits his three half-brothers. The death from cancer of his mother last year has left a deep scar.

Blunkett began our conversation last week by fighting shy of a *Times* profile – "The comrades won't like it" – adding that it would build up only one of many. He ended typically in the self-mocking vein of his reply to a "Question Time" audience member who asked whether politicians are motivated by integrity or dogma. Pointing to Ted, he answered: "I plead guilty to *dogma*."

One of his Sheffield friends, who accompanied him on a recent visit to Sheffield's twin city in China, An Shan, tells a favourite story with trepidation and admiration.

Blunkett was invited to climb the highest peak in the region, called Heaven by the locals. At the top the guide and translator let slip that the real summit was 10ft higher, on top of a round boulder perched on Heaven's brow, to be scaled only with the aid of a rope and notches cut in the rock.

Determined to settle for no less, Mr Blunkett insisted on scrambling up, there to be told: "Mr Blunkett, this is Heaven Above Heaven". Such indomitability has taken him a long way in a short time, and many Labour members placing their faith in his like will be anxious to ensure he does not lose his foothold.

Colin Hughes

Mike Arron



Blunkett and Ted: pleading guilty to *dogma*

moreover . . . Miles Kington

Videos go absolutely berserk

Present thinking about videos seems to be bedevilled by the simple-minded attitude that a thing is either a video nasty or it isn't. But the real world doesn't work like that, and videos break down into dozens of different categories.

In the faint hope that it might lead to a more intelligent debate, I am today providing a list of the dozen or so basic video genres. I hope, of course, that they will all be banned, but one can't have everything.

Video Nasty. Any film in which more people die than were at the beginning. Examples are hardly necessary, but obvious ones are *The Black and Decker Atrocities, The Chain Saw Five go Absolutely Berserk in Cornwall*, and the *BBC Nine o'Clock News*. I have not seen any of these myself, but I gather they are more horrendous than anything available except *The World at War*, which I have seen and I hope we're on the same side as Japan next time.

Video Awful. Any foreign version of the above in which the subtitles are not quite legible, leaving the faint suspicion that it may in fact be rather a classy Japanese film, or an unknown Bunuel, or even the kind of thing that Clive James is collecting for his next edition of "This is Really Terrible, So Laugh When I Laugh".

Video Ghastly. Any tape which you thought was going to be an episode of *Jewel in the Crown* but turns out to be half a James Bond film because you pressed the wrong channel, and you watch it and you think it's not half bad, actually, so you might as well watch to the end, and then it suddenly fades into a snowstorm.

Video Softy. A tape compilation of the naughty bits from serious BBC serials.

Video Oldy. An illicitly taped old classic movie which was the greatest film in the world when you saw it, but unaccountably is now rather boring.

Video Trendy. An illicitly taped new movie which is unaccountably very boring now, but will no doubt be great in 20 years.

Video sporty. A recording of one of the great sporting events of modern times except anything featuring Torvill and Dean, which should be filed under Party Political Broadcasts. The level of violence varies considerably from sport to sport, and there is no room here to give a complete list, but a rough guide from 1 to 10 is as follows: Snooker 0, Darts 0, Football 3, Cricket 4, Wrestling 1, Boxing 8, Rugby 14. (NB Any British boxing films introduced by Harry Carpenter rate about 1½.)

Monte video. A documentary seen on Channel 4 about a South American country. To qualify properly, it should have the following ingredients: 1, An interview with a cocoa leaf farmer; 2, A portrait of a señora at risk; 3, All dialogue in Spanish, with despairing subtitles; 4, Some wildly exciting music; 5, A visit to a guerrilla encampment.

Video Hasty. A recording of a favourite programme which contains more of other programmes at the beginning and end than it does of the programme in question. It should contain at least a quarter of an hour of Russell Harty or *What the Papers Say*.

Video druggy. A particularly vicious kind of film in which all the participants are genuinely drugged up to the eyeballs and then have to beat each other physically. Example: any emission from the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics.

Video Nobody. Any recording of a chat show you come across, in which you recognize neither the host nor any of the guests. Also Russell Harty.

Video Hammy. A TV drama recording which you taped because the *Radio Times* promised a scathing look at today's society. Also, *Play for Today*.

Video Funny. A tape which your host drags out and insists on playing for you because it's screamingly funny and they'd love to see it again and you pray in your heart that it's not going to be *Five Go A Bit Bonkers In Dorset* again.

Video Shorty. The greatest threat of all to the art of broadcasting, this is the videotape of an otherwise perfectly ordinary IBA transmission from which *all the commercials have been removed.*

Banking on the book trades bunkum factor

New York

Some critics think Robert Ludlum one of the worst novelists in history. He also happens to be among the biggest selling in the world. His twelfth novel, *The Aquitaine Progression*, Has just been published and in spite of some terrible reviews, it has shot to the top of the best seller lists.

In the past three weeks a record 600,000 hardback copies have been sold in America, making it one of the most successful book launches ever. In Britain more than 150,000 hardback copies have been sold to shops and book clubs–another record launch. In the past 15 years Ludlum has sold 40 million novels in 23 languages.

One New York magazine last week castigated his new book: "Ludlum remains pretty much what he was 15 years back, a no-frills, no nonsense keyboard thumper who clearly couldn't care less about imagery, diction, cadence or syntax. If there is a wrong word, an inert word, he will nearly always find it. Ludlum and language are by now on such bad terms, in fact, that he seems out to punish every sentence".

The criticism does not upset Ludlum. "It doesn't bother me", he told me last week. "Sure, everybody wants approval, but I came from the theatre, and I've always treasured a remark from there which goes 'For every six people who love you there will be half a dozen who loathe you'". Ludlum is more interested in sales than critics, for he also believes: "The quality of an author's work is not usually determined until after his death. Dickens got some pretty bad reviews."

So what is the secret of his success? His English publishers are quite clear. "He tells marvellous stories that people want to read." His agent in the United States, Henry Morrison, agrees: "His books have a tremendous amount of electricity and theatricality about them." Mario Puzo, author of *The Godfather*, is equally certain: "Ludlum is an ingenious storyteller with a wonderful and convincing imagination."

The public is in no doubt. His byzantine tales of spies and world intrigue – where there is always a danger to civilization and where his heroes are always the pawns of presidents – race off the bookstalls. He was the first author to twice top the hard cover and the paperback best seller lists at the same time. When his new novel goes into paperback in the United States next year, the publishers are predicting a print run of three million copies.

Ludlum's imagination has created what many intelligence experts find intensely believable scenes of espionage, which has convinced many that he must have been a spy himself. He steadfastly denies it: "William Stephenson once said 'All intelligence work is an extension of the imagination'. That is exactly what I have done, extended my imagination. I am not, nor have I ever been, a member of the intelligence community."

Ludlum's diabolic and tortuous plots reflect what he calls "my little paranoia" about "excesses of power all over the world". One former director of the Central Intelligence Agency, Admiral Stanfield Turner, admits that Ludlum's *The Bourne Identity* is his favourite spy novel, although he adds, "Life in the spy world isn't as risky in life as it is in his books. You don't dodge all those bullets".

Michelle Ryder



Ludlum and language: on bad terms

Ludlum is a stocky, broad-faced man of 56, who looks like a retired San Francisco police detective. More from the cast of *Hill Street Blues*, than a CIA operative. He started out as an actor. After a fine arts degree he appeared in eight Broadway shows and about 200 television films, usually as a lawyer or a heavy who was killed. There was also a steady supply of voice-over work for commercials; and a period in production.

But at 40 he decided to give up to write. "I didn't so much burn my bridges as blow them up", he says. "I had been doing something for 18 years which I realized that I didn't like". Although he had a wife and three children, he took a year off and wrote a novel based on an idea he found in an old copy of the *Illustrated London News*. Many novelists consider themselves lucky to sell 5,000 copies of their first novel in hard covers, but Ludlum sold 75,000 of the *Scarlatti Inheritance*. That novel has since sold five million copies world wide.

"I was the most stunned, astonished, and grateful man alive when I realized I would be able to make a living as a writer", he says and his modesty seems genuine. He is disarmingly balanced, unassuming and relaxed. "I'm glad to say writer's block for me is 11 minutes", he said.

He attributes his sanity to his wife, Mary, who was also an actress, and who reads all his manuscripts in typescript and suggests changes. "When she starts by saying 'This is terrific'," he says "I know the next word is going to be 'but . . .' and I'm going to make a change".

Although his novels have made him a multi-millionaire, he has not moved house or sought out a tax haven. He lives in Connecticut in the summer and Florida in the winter. "Nothing in my life has changed. I am doing exactly what I was before, except maybe travelling a little more". He has no intention of stopping work, even though he could easily afford to retire. "Why should I stop? I love it. Besides, I can still remember my unemployment number from when I was an actor".

Geoffrey Wansell

The Acquitaine Progression by Robert Ludlum is published by Granada, price £8.95.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 310)

ACROSS
1 Fruit basket (6)
5 Subsidiary rules (6)
8 Adam's partner (3)
9 Ligament wrench (6)
10 Ruined (6)
11 Worry (4)
12 Savoury dish (8)
14 Provencal fish soup (13)
17 Fly near ground (8)
19 Flying frame (4)
21 Violent confusion (6)
23 Slanting letter (6)
24 Silly fool (3)
25 Distinctive phrase (6)
26 Intermediate (6)

DOWN
2 Higher (5)
3 Close shave (4,5)
4 Climber's frond (7)
5 Twig broom (5)
6 Lavatory (3)
7 Jitters (7)
13 Morass (9)
15 In general (7)
16 Christening (7)
18 Of mankind (5)
20 Warbling sound (5)
22 Greedy type (3)

SOLUTION TO No 309
ACROSS: 1 Jump at 4 Salary 7 Junk 8 Inasmuch 9 Failsafe 12 New 15 Groove 16 Litmus 17 DIY 19 Redeemer 24 Saboteur 25 Tojo 26 Ferret 27 Reveal
DOWN: 1 Juju 2 Mandatory 3 Twins 4 Scarf 5 Lame 6 Ruche 10 Lover 11 Exile 12 Number one 13 Wasp 14 Aged 18 Inane 20 Event 21 Error 22 Four 23 Fool

BOOKS

Foul play and blurred vision at TV-am

Treachery?
The Power Struggle at TV-am
By Michael Leapman
(Allen & Unwin, £8.50)

"History will expose those who have been most treacherous," said Anna Ford to the reporters and television crews assembled for a little harmful cannibalism at TV-am's embattled studios on March 18, 1983. History, if it bothers, will have to wait until time outdistances the libel laws by which time the judgment won't matter.

Mr Leapman is certainly constrained here and one is left to draw conclusions about foul play at Camden Lock. He says his book is not about television, just a "classic cloak-and-dagger boardroom drama". But it is about television also and how the IBA, plumping to do something different, came to award a franchise to a consortium that had faces, fine phrases, and misplaced confidence, but little business competence.

This is a regurgitative little book, reflecting in its somewhat repetitive and occasionally purple prose style that feverish excitement the media has in its own affairs and judges the public to share.

More often than not I suspect they are incredulous about what goes on and how much people get paid for being involved. They might wonder here at the sagacity of investors, who surely must learn to assess strange businesses, in becoming involved in a company whose principal asset, "the famous five", were to work only six months of the year, two receiving £112,500 each for it.

Mr Leapman's book relies heavily "on interviews with most of its leading characters". Some wished for anonymity and he conferred it on all: a pity because it is always interesting to know who has not only wisdom after the event but courage, too.

Certainly, Mr Peter Jay had it. Honesty, too. In his Dénouement, which is coy, Mr. Leapman says that the question is who pushed Mr. Jay and was it treachery. He doesn't answer, but considers rather the responsibility for programme failure, and is inclined to accept Mr Jay's shouldering of the blame in a letter to this newspaper, and look no further. That seems to overlook the possibility that had Mr. Jay's qualities been reciprocated early on things might just have been different.

Dennis Hackett

Fiona MacCarthy reviews itinerant hacks

Around England with rucksack and typewriter


Jubilee for seasoned traveller . . .

English Journey
Or The Road to Milton Keynes
By Beryl Bainbridge
(Duckworth/BBC, £7.95)

English Journey
By J. B. Priestly
(Heinemann, £12.95)

Beryl Bainbridge's journey did not begin too smoothly. Marooned in her taxi in Trafalgar Square while columns of Old Soldiers marched slowly from St Martin-in-the-Fields towards the Mall, she was late at Waterloo for the Southampton train. No porters. Smoking carriages – they would be – the farthest from the barrier. Train door would not open (she is bad at technicalities), so famous novelist, beginning to get frantic, banged her forehead against the outside window, starting to shout. People inside feared the worst and looked away, a bit embarrassed. After that, she spent the train-ride in retreat with Sunday papers. For all she knew, she tells us, she may have passed through the most beautiful country in England.

To that time-honoured body of itinerant writers, people who set out to travel England with their rucksacks, firm with their handshakes, receptive of mien, Beryl Bainbridge with her handbag, a professional stay-at-home who tells *Who's Who* her recreation is sleeping, is a recruit of a wonderful unlikeliness. A choice bizarre indeed to retrace the route around England – up the west side via Bristol to Manchester and Liverpool, cutting over above Blackburn to the Tyne, then back by Lincoln and Norwich towards home and Highgate – taken by J B Priestley 50 years ago in his classic *English Journey*.

Beryl Bainbridge is a marvellous writer, tight and spare and yet with her own peculiar exuberance. But she is not, it must be said (and she would say it herself, no hesitation), altogether convincing as a traveller. She will not quite abide by the rules of English journeying. For instance, unlike Priestley who had found someone to talk to in his railway carriage before the train reached Camberley, Beryl Bainbridge – admittedly hampered by the presence of the BBC TV film crew which travelled with her – finds it very very difficult to strike up conversations, as one is supposed to, with sundry English citizens. She, or else her quarry, is always far too furtive. "That's my business", said the very old lady in the coffee shop in Liverpool, eating a cream slice topped with cherries, when Beryl Bainbridge started to talk about the past.

English journeyers are meant to go and look around cathedrals. But Beryl Bainbridge, in her guise of ignoramus, claims to know little of architecture, and to dislike art, and really only makes for churches to have smokes in (using her coat pocket as a messy mobile ashtray). English journeyers are also, if they know their job, supposed to take an interest in local food and sample things like chitterlings; but the lady author, playing the forthright anti-gourmet, insists in dining at the Kentucky Fried Chicken where by mistake she sprinkles sugar on her chips.

The Beryl Bainbridge show is fast and zany and amusing, an updated version of *The Knack* with Rita Tushingham, but it is, I think, a bit of a cheat and an evasion. English journeyers are meant to be confronting modern Britain, ruminating on comtemporary problems, maybe even, finally, offering solutions. Beryl Bainbridge, who dislikes modern Britain quite acutely, spends much of her Journey skulking up in her hotel room, and the best of this book – the chapter on her gloomy and romantic upbringing in Liverpool where, as a trainee actress, she once played Ptolemy in *Caesar and Cleopatra* at the Playhouse – would surely have lost little of its impact had she actually written it at home in bed.


. . . Mrs Average fifty years on

Feeling that exhaustion which besets you after travelling for miles with an intelligent but very wayward child, I reached with some relief for the ample jubilee edition of the original J. B. Priestley *Journey* illustrated superbly with a new collection of 1930s photographs. It is terribly old-fashioned, being serious and sonorous, but read it. It stands up still quite astonishingly well.

It's clever, but is it art, or the arts industry?

The Culture Club
Crisis in the Arts
By Bryan Appleyard
(Faber, £2.95)

The Culture Club is an ambitious piece of polemic that sets out to unravel the confused ideas of art, society, value, and profit that underlie the current debate about arts subsidy and arts planning. If it is good to subsidize these activities, who is it good for – artists or audiences, or some vague "quality of national life"?

Both the Soft Left and the Hard Right are interested in arts expenditure. The free marketeers have come to see that the Arts can represent considerable turnover of profits, export markets, employment prospects. The Soft Left, amongst whom Appleyard includes most of the arts "mandarins" he entertainingly interviews, believe in Art as some kind of necessary social benefit, like housing, health, or freedom from pollution.

Whether, or how, it actually does this is in fact dubious. Subsidizing art on behalf of democratic enlightenment tends in practice to privilege art, which can be seen to be concerned with democratic enlightenment. This can be either art with a clear politico-social "message" – the steady stream of "condition of England" plays – or mass artistic behaviour. In the 1960s the bounds between "art" and daily life became blurred – everything was art, clothes, pop music, Happenings, Love-Ins, Laugh-Ins, carnivals. . . . The 1970s oil crisis brought a new grimness to the general assumptions of benevolence, openness, plurality, progress, community, in which Lord Goodman's Arts Council had benignly flourished.

Great art in our time, Appleyard argues, is precisely *not* amenable to this social and do-gooding manipulation. Great art is modernism and its heritage, and modernism is peculiarly concerned with matters of form, peculiarly self-referring. He quotes T. S. Eliot, "Culture is one thing we cannot deliberately aim at"; and Sir William Rees-Mogg, "What we can't do is say we want to have great art and get it." His example of modern great art is Beckett, musing on the lack of anything to express, the lack of power to express, and of the desire to express, together with the obligation to express. (He might have included the joyful modernists, Picasso's bright vision of Western and primitive culture, or Pound's great poetic recapitulation of the voices of our layered past, as well as this minimalist anxiety.)

"Private, individual delight and a profound uselessness" are fundamental to the nature of all art, says Bryan Appleyard. He is ambivalent in his attitude to modernism, whether in the form of Joyce's remote nail-paring novelist or the didactic impositions of modernist architecture which "presupposed a heroic architect, a visionary with the will to impose his sensibility on the real world", but in practice produced human disasters as well as beauty.

What he thinks we should *do* is not entirely clear. He considers the arts industry to be complacent and suffering, despite its plaints, from a kind of obesity. His mandarins "find it difficult to come to conclusions on artistic matters", and are concerned with function and finance, tact and strategy, *not* with questions of value or "too exclusive a vision". He contrasts Isaiah Berlin's individualist view. "Advances in the arts are brought about by, at most, handfuls of individuals. I really do not think 'the national will' plays any part in this sphere." Mr Appleyard's brief, dense and complicated book does not endorse this vision wholly but prefers it to a vision of the arts either as egalitarian welfare or subsumed namelessly in the "leisure industry". It is written in the thick of our philosophical, cultural, political and historical muddle and offers us some clear insights into this muddle. It is not in the nature of such writing to resolve it.

A. S. Byatt

National monument

Winston Churchill
By Piers Brendon
(Secker & Warburg, £9.95)

Charles de Gaulle
By Don Cook
(Secker & Warburg, £15)

When Virginia Cowles before the war told Churchill she intended to write a book about him he said "Oh, you're not going to plough that well furrowed field again are you?". Books about Churchill abound in all shapes and sizes, some of the more notable written by himself. It was with a slightly weary eye that I picked up this one: it is a better read than I expected.

The epic is made short but it has the flavour of the man right. Most of the stories are familiar but worth repeating. The book is peppered with well chosen quotations not always attributed to their author. I wouldn't have minded an acknowledgement to me of the phrase "an ancient monument during his own lifetime" from an article I wrote in *Encounter* while Churchill was *still* Prime Minister; however I must be grateful for my name being attached to another observation.

Mr Brendon sails merrily along without sycophancy and with some shrewdness. He does not belittle Churchill but illustrates the faults that all great men have, unforgivable in others but not in them once they have achieved greatness. It is on the way up that their often arrogant behaviour excites hostility.

Churchill was vain, and abnormally self centred, a nuisance to those surrounding him from whom he demanded constant manual service. From boyhood he knew he was to be a man of destiny but had difficulty in persuading others that this was so. Mr Brendon is funny about Churchill's biography of the great Duke of Marlborough. He began to write it before the research started. It was really another Winston autobiography in which the hero's vices were turned into virtues.

Occasionally Mr Brendon is slightly offbeam. He writes of Churchill turning "on his former friends behind the 'Iron Curtain'" at Fulton in 1946. Unlike the gullible Roosevelt, Churchill never believed Stalin had given up imperialist communism, a view confirmed, in February 1945 when Stalin replaced, contrary to agreements with Churchill and Roosevelt, the all party Romanian government with a Communist government imposed by Soviet tanks.

Nor did Churchill, as Mr Brendon thinks, approve Eden's Suez adventure, counting it folly to invade Egypt without consulting the Americans. But, small blemishes apart, a reader who does not want to know too much about Churchill can safely begin here. He may be surprised to learn of the contempt which Noel Coward had for our national hero.

De Gaulle regarded Churchill as his enemy. Actually it was Roosevelt who was his enemy and Churchill risked breaches with Roosevelt by making frequent requests that de Gaulle should be given the status of the head of the provisional government of France. Roosevelt, ignorant about European politics, preferred to toy with Vichyites and lesser men like Giraud.

Mr Don Cook has written a first-class and comprehensive biography. De Gaulle reminds me of Jinnah. Both had few cards but their obstinacy and pride. Both were hideous bores to many who had to deal with them. They wore opposition down by insisting on their national rights, refusing to discuss details and demanding recognition of "L'Etat c'est moi".

Though perhaps de Gaulle overdid it when he ordered his 170 French liaison officers not to embark for Normandy with the allied forces because he was dissatisfied with the arrangements for his broadcast to tell the French that their liberation was at hand. It is a comfort to read that on arrival in France de Gaulle was just as bloody to the French as he had been to his British and American allies.

Nor did he give a damn for Stalin who encountered the great "Non" in Moscow for the first time in December 1944. Annoyed by Stalin's draft for a Franco-Russian Treaty, which included recognition of the Communists as the government of Poland, he departed early from an elaborate entertainment given him by Stalin saying further negotiations were useless and he would be leaving early in the morning. In the middle of the night Stalin changed the draft.

Churchill was a clubbable man, de Gaulle was not. To have lunch with him was a grim ordeal; the food and wine were sparse and ordinary and the conversation austerely terrifying. But he too was great, restoring order and pride to France and making a sensible constitution which has lasted. And he had a touching side. Devoted to his mentally retarded daughter, who died at 19, de Gaulle took his wife's hand at the burial saying, "Now she is like all the rest".

Woodrow Wyatt

Marcel Berlins commits the latest crimes

Blood and pinko whodunits

Murder in the Central Committee
By Manuel Vasquez Montalban
(Pluto Press, £7.95)

October Heat
By Gordon DeMarco
(Pluto Press, £7.95)

Socialism has had a bad time of it in crime fiction. Characters of the political left who occasionally strayed into whodunit or police procedural were inevitably treated as either dangerous threats or deep eccentrics. Even the cynical school of American writers who, through their characters, questioned the values that promoted the greed and corruption they saw around them, seldom placed their criticism in any political context. Crime fiction has remained unquestioningly rooted in the western democratic societies that gave it birth, and the rules of the game reflect that framework. But is there anything inherently illogical with the concept of socialist – or, at least, politically and socially aware – crime fiction?

Pluto Press, publishers of serious left wing books, have inaugurated a crime list to prove that the two can mix, and are holding a competition to try to unearth new poli-tecs. The first batch of pinko whodunits augurs well for the genre.

The Central Committee of the title of Montalban's book is that of the Spanish Communist Party, and the victim is its general secretary. Ex-communist private detective Pepe Carvalho, master cook and proud Catalan, is hired to parallel the official police inquiry, conducted by a mistrusted right-winger. Memories of the Spanish Civil War, the struggle between Stalin and Euro-Communism, and Basque separatism all provide possible motives. Montalban has managed to write both an excellent political novel and a gripping old-fashioned whodunit.

October Heat's antecedents are equally traditional. It's a zippy thirties-style and thirties-set thriller that would not have disgraced Hammett. Riley Kovachs meets the same kind of dames, hoods cops, losers, and double-crossers that Sam Spade used to know. But Riley has a socio-political conscience as well, which gets him beaten up very often. Against the background of a Californian gubernatorial election, Kovachs uncovers a right wing assassination plot which he defuses with verve and wit. Fast, slick and intelligent.

Morbid Symptoms by Gill Slovo *(Pluto Press, £6.95)*. Lift-shaft murder at African Economic Reports, left-leaning research body. Journalist heroine Kate, (ex-South African, feminist, saxophonist) drafted by her colleagues to meander through African exile politics in London and find the culprit. The quest strains reality, but some appealing descriptions of London life among young socialist third-worlders.

The Reckoning, by Georges Simenon *(Hamish Hamilton, £7.95)*. First English translation of a 1948 short novel, *Le Bilan Malétras*. Well-off, dutifully married, and bored, Malétras becomes obsessed with vulgar waitress and kills her, without quite meaning to or knowing why. He escapes formal justice, but not, in the end, punishment. The oppressive pettiness of provincial life, the moral ambiguity of desiccated relationships, and the welcome inevitability of retribution are depicted with matchless precision and spareness. Archetypal, and therefore excellent, Simenon.

The Smooth Face of Evil, by Margaret Yorke *(Hutchinson, £7.95)*. Delicate claustrophobic tale of loneliness and passion. Yorke has a special talent for portraying ordinary people out of their depth. There are no heroes or winners. Everyone is a victim, not just those that die. Terry, good-looking con-man, finds easy prey in ageing widow Alice, but has then to deal with scheming Sue. Subtle, slow to build, but ultimately compelling.

The Streetbird, by Janwillem van de Wetering *(Gollancz, £7.95)*. More bizarre and murky Amsterdam stones upturned, to reveal witchcraft, pimping and murder among the city's black community. Adjutant Grijpstra and Sergeant De Gier merge happily with the red lighting. Authentically sleazy and some sharp sociology, but the coppers of Amsterdam have now all taken to speaking in an elliptical shorthand that occasionally endangers the reader's attention.

The Open Door, Laurence Meynell *(Macmillan, £6.95)* The existence of Stella Brendon's over-heated lust-letters to a former lover threatens her future nuptials with prudish tycoon. Amusing, well-connected Soho bar-fly and private eye Hooky Hefferman is hired to recover them from oily blackmailer, but murder ensues.

Isabel Raphael reviews the fiction of the week

And there the antick sits . . .

The Suburbs of Hell
By Randolph Stow
(Secker & Warburg, £7.95)

Behaving Badly
By Catherine Heath
(Cape, £7.95)

Scorched Earth
By Edward Fenton
(Sinclair Browne, £7.95)

Bolt the doors and draw the curtains close: Randolph Stow has a chilling tale to tell, cold as the fenland country where it is set. The contemporary-sounding title comes in fact from *The Duchess of Malfi*; and the book, for all its contemporary setting, is as grim a memento mori as the skull on the desk of a Renaissance prince.

The little town of Tornwich has seen better days. Now its lanes are full of empty houses, and only its seedy pubs offer a ghost of warmth to its lonely inhabitants. Each seems in some way bereaved: the schoolmaster abandoned by his wife; the widowed Commander, Black Sam, whose mother has returned to Antigua; and Ena, who lost husband and son in the war, living in symbolic isolation in a lighthouse. There may be larks and anemones in the woods outside the town, but for the people of Tornwich there is no spring. All they have to hold on to is life, and inexorably, implacably, Death claims them one by one. Nobody is immune from suspicion, not even big-hearted Harry who presides benevolently over this skeleton community.

Who is the Tornwich Monster? Who is to pay for this string of crimes? Are they connected with the other sinister themes of madness and drugs, blackmail and racism that run tantalizingly through the book, or are they simply as cold-blooded as the Jacobean quotations that precede each violent end? And who can the murderer be who whispers to us so knowingly, unless he be the grim reaper himself?

Randolph Stow keeps up the tension to the very end, deftly laying false trails and marvellously conjuring up the character and atmosphere of East Anglia. This is compelling and haunting writing, and there is no neat conclusion offered to neutralize death's sting.

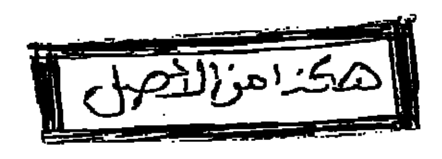
Behaving Badly by Catherine Heath may suffer by coming out after Fay Weldon's much acclaimed *Life and Loves of a She-Devil*, in that both have a similar theme. In each a respectable married woman refuses to accept rejection in a decent, compliant way and sets out to create chaos instead. But there the likeness ends. Whereas Fay Weldon's heroine is a woman scorned, whose fury is channelled into calculated and self-abasing revenge, Catherine Heath's Bridget has merely been shelved. Indeed, she has spent five dreary years trying to accustom herself to her lot, reminding herself, "One must behave."

This is not easy with Frieda, her dotty and irrepressible Jewish mother-in-law, providing a running commentary by telephone from Hampstead on the love-life of her ex-husband and with her own thoughts constantly turning to her self-sufficient daughter flat-sharing in Battersea. A bizarre chance occurrence jolts Bridget into a new awareness of herself and she strides back into life – their lives, first of all and then into worlds undreamed of in her suburban exile. For the first time in years Bridget begins to enjoy herself, impervious to the discomfiture of her family. After all, it is they who have put her into the position where she has only herself to please. Why should she behave?

Here is an exceptional novel, brisk and unsentimental, touching and subtly romantic. It is also very funny. Catherine Heath understands the genuine affection behind family ties, as well as the ludicrously awful dilemmas of middle age, and looks on middle-class pretensions with a sharp but tolerant eye. Her style is as poised and cool and her dialogue as artfully artless as that of Barbara Pym; and there is no higher praise in novels of this kind.

The main thing to be said about Edward Fenton, who has won the Sinclair Prize for fiction with *Scorched Earth*, is that he writes remarkably well, with rare fluency and assurance. I wish he had found something more inspiring to write about. The plight of London's young unemployed should arouse interest and perhaps compassion, but my withers were unwrung by Dan, Chris, Ratface and Sue whose energy, mental and physical, seems sapped more by marijuana than by an indifferent society. Their indignation carries them no farther than spray-paint graffiti and gate-crashing a Conservative Party gathering (a nicely satirical description, this). Even lighting up a joint in the Commons Gallery proves a damp squib. A modern Juvenal needs to wield something more savage than an elegant prose style; but I look forward to substantial work from Edward Fenton in the future.

In the course of duty I read *Concrete* by Thomas Bernhard (*Dent, £8.95*), translated from the German. This is a monologue of 154 pages in which Rudolf, ailing and ageing, explores his obsession with his sister, his pathological inability to write and his lack of communication with life. He oozes envy and self-pity and a real tragedy only serves to turn his neuroses back upon himself. On page 108 he laughs. I did not feel enriched by the experience.



THE ARTS

Television

Account pointedly rendered

The Polite Conspiracy, on BBC2 last night, dealt with our tax system, charging that it makes the rich richer and accountants increase and multiply. It was likely to be a popular programme – the privileged watching to pick up tips; the under-privileged to enjoy a sense of grievance.

To demonstrate his points, the writer and presenter James Bellini, who is never inclined to reach for a scalpel when he can swing an axe, introduced a fictional well-heeled family, able to make the best out of the worst for themselves with expert aid.

Their individual cases were interspersed with expert comment. We saw management executives being instructed in "acceptable packages" – combinations of allowable benefits which can increase salaries by up to 30 per cent, and heard about that envied benefit, the company car. A leasing executive said companies spent £6,500 million a year on these and pointed out that any change would mean woe to the manufacturers.

Mr Chris Pond, of the Low Pay Unit, said it was absurd to create a welfare system for the rich while cutting back on welfare for the poor. It seemed that accountants can burrow through the system like maggots through cheese, and the tax consultant Mr Lance Blackstone probably precipitated viewers to look for their tax codings by remarking that, on the Inland Revenue's own figures, 40 per cent of these were wrong.

Mr John Kay, of the Insititute of Fiscal Studies, seemed to exonerate governments for an "unfair and inefficient" system. "Nobody designed this system", he said. "Nobody in their right mind would design a system like this. It just grew up."

No attention was paid to the black economy – not a preserve of the transparently rich – and I do not think, as Mr Bellini does, that tax is not something we talk about or that communication in this area is invariably polite. But it was a diverting, if strongly opinionated, programme.

Dennis Hackett


Hugh Hudson: "I believe in Cinema"

Hugh Hudson, director of *Chariots of Fire*, has tackled the Tarzan myth, his *Greystoke* opening in London next week: interview by **John Preston**

The ultimate self-made man

Perched on the edge of an acutely uncomfortable-looking steel and leather deckchair, Hugh Hudson mutters nervously, "I just hope the public likes it. You never know these things, do you?" Three years after he started work on the project and some 28 million dollars later, Hudson's *Greystoke: The Legend of Tarzan, Lord of the Apes* finally opens in London next week. There is, he concedes, an awful lot at stake on the film. Not only the well-being of Warner Brothers, currently nursing another rather large hole in their finances, but also Hudson's reputation as a director. This may only be his second feature film, but, since the first was the Oscar-winning *Chariots of Fire*, expectations are riding particularly high.

Sticking closely to the first three Edgar Rice Burroughs Tarzan novels, Hudson has sought to get away from the built-in risibility of previous Tarzan films. Gone are the brilliantined coiffeurs, the breast-beating yodels and the tree-house with the full range of mail-order accessories.

"I wanted to present the story as something that could perhaps have happened", he says. "I just found it very interesting to take this popular myth and treat it as realistically and differently as possible." Thus the jungle is – for the most part – the genuine Cameroonian article and, when the action shifts back to England, it unfolds against some of the most most opulent backdrops British architecture can muster. Realism may be at a premium but this after all is an unashamedly full-blown epic. In or out of the wild, it comes in a determinedly lush packaging.

The project was first mooted seven years ago the brainchild of Robert Towne, who wrote the script for *Chinatown* and became obsessed with the Tarzan story. But he also became hopelessly bogged down in his directorial debut, *Personal Best*, and sold off his script of *Greystoke* in order to raise money to finish off the film. There is still a good deal of Towne's script left in the finished *Greystoke*, although he did not wish to appear under his own name on the credits, choosing the pseudonym P. H. Vazak instead – "it's the name of his dog", admits Hudson sadly.

Hudson too was immediately smitten with the idea of trying to make a "plausible" Tarzan. "Burroughs is a pretty bad writer but he did create this extraordinary twentieth-century myth. It's like everyone's favourite childhood adventure. There seems to be a need for Tarzan. He is truly heroic. He's the sort of character anyone can identify with. He struggles and he survives and he won't be told what to do." Hudson pauses, searching for the right phrase. His eyes light up. "That's what Tarzan is, he's the ultimate self-made man."

This vision of Tarzan as the figurehead of a free-market economy may excite some surprise, but Hudson clearly has a weakness for heroes cast in a stout-hearted Edwardian mould. And, at 47, Hudson still has an ingenuous, boyish air about him. An Old Etonian, he came out of the Army after National Service hoping to get into the film industry. But all doors stayed closed and so he opted for commercials instead. Nearly 20 years and a clutch of awards later, David Puttnam finally gave him the chance to break into features with *Chariots*. "All the repressions I'd been holding back for so long suddenly came out," he says, "and that is partly why there is such a feeling of joyousness about the film."

Hudson happily refers to himself as "a grand romantic", and admits in an unguarded moment that "I don't really get near the truth". Holding his arms wide, he says "I believe in Cinema". And yet his is a peculiarly English form of populism: the desire to spin a cracking yarn while also providing something more substantial to chew on "if you want to look for it". Hudson talks earnestly and quite plausibly about the various subtextual strands in *Greystoke*: about ecology, fundamentalism and "nature versus nurture". But one suspects he is on firmer ground when he says, simply, "I've always wanted to be a story-teller, that's really what I am".

Greystoke was originally going to be produced by David Puttnam. However, after six months when it became clear that the project was going to take up more time than he had bargained for, Puttnam bowed out amicably and Hudson himself became co-producer. While the script was being finalized Hudson immersed himself in every study of primates he could lay his hands on, Jane Goodall's account of her work with apes heading the list. Six months were spent teaching mime artists to conduct themselves in convincingly simian style and then, when shooting got under way, Hudson found himself confronted with "huge logistical problems".

Relations with Warners also came under strain. "I was getting an awful lot of fear and ignorance coming my way from Hollywood. They were obviously worried about how it was going to turn out. But fear can be infectious after a while. You start to doubt the film you are making and that can be very dangerous if you are not careful."

Originally scheduled to open at Christmas, *Greystoke* had to be postponed for three months. "That was my fault", says Hudson. "I underestimated the amount of time it would take to edit the film." The cuts though were not all of his own choosing. Hudson wanted to bring the film in at around 140 minutes. Warners insisted that he lose a further 10. Hudson reluctantly complied. "It seems to work as it is", he says cautiously.

Despite his adherence to the "grand style of film-making", Hudson seems well aware of the dangers of cultivating an epic mentality. "You mean how can I go and do a small film after this? Yes, it is a danger, definitely. I am very aware of it." He ponders for a moment and then adds: "I don't know if I want to avoid it, but I am certainly aware of it."

Opera

Rigoletto
Covent Garden

The Royal Opera House, possibly mindful of Dr Miller's alchemy over in St Martin's Lane, have had Verdi's *Rigoletto* out of the repertory for six years. Seeing it after this interval is to go back into some operatic time-warp. Lila de Nobili, who influenced a whole generation of set designers, has her Mantua louring darkly – and quite handsomely once outside the Duke's palace – and her structures still take an unconscionable time to move. Zeffirelli's dwarves, who used to huddle under Rigoletto's cloak, have gone off to find other employment, but Sherrill Milnes in the title role, heavily made up, broad and obvious of gesture, seems to have come from another age.

Milnes, surprisingly singing Rigoletto for the time at the Garden, has been an underrated baritone in Britain, partly his own fault because in a long career his appearances here have been few. The voice may not now have the cutting edge of a decade ago, but it is still a mighty instrument, well able to throw that final "Maledizione" out and up to the rafters. His jester is a broken bear of a man, his forehead furrowed with care – perhaps because he has not managed to make the court laugh for many a year. Vocally it remains an impressive performance, especially in Act II, but one curiously lacking in human passion.

Alida Ferrarini, a new name to London, is a pocket-sized soprano – especially when standing close to Milnes – whose voice might have been tailored for Gilda in its bell-like tones and girlish neatness of enunciation. There was a shade too much of the automaton Olympia during her first scene, despite an accomplished "Caro nome", but the personality grew with the evening. Return engagement, please.

Over the next few months Dennis O'Neill has a quantity of Dukes before him around the world and most are likely to be better than this one. Both the Duca's hit songs went astray vocally and it was not until "Ella mi fu rapita" that O'Neill showed his true [illegible] lines, and [illegible] cabaletta indicated a lack of support to the voice. The acting, like most of that visible on stage, was perfunctory and left Zeffirelli's creation out of sight. Gwynne Howell's Sparafucile had a beacon-like brightness among the supporting roles, which were otherwise indifferently cast.

Edward Downes, who has long been associated with this opera, had a thoroughly miserable evening in the pit: leaden tempi, playing drained of emotion. Was this really an opera about execution, abduction, rape and assassination flecked with Verdian irony? Was this the orchestra that played in *Capuleti*? The audience booed.

John Higgins

Theatre

Striking detail

The Great Celestial Cow
Royal Court


Donald Cooper
In and out of roles: Lou Wakefield (left) and Feroza Syal, with Dev Sagoo

After the East Anglian women of *Fen*, Joint Stock turns to another socially beleaguered group: Asian mothers, daughters and wives. Same technique (composition through a workshop process) with, this time, Sue Townsend as writer. The result, once more, is a lovely play, crammed with well-observed [illegible] detail that hits hard.

The early episode that shows Sita (Souad Faress) and her son and daughter leaving their Indian village to join Daddy in Leicester promise a rather different play, introducing them to Britain in the shape of a gruesome parade of western hostility and ignorance in immigration lounge and fruit market. Thereafter the focus narrows on to their own community, whose favoured males (not excluding the adored heir apparent in short trousers) maintain their proprietorial attitudes despite the move from rural compound to High Street Co-Op.

Women's work, apart from being exploited in a dress factory at £55 per week, is making chappatis as the master likes them, caring for kids and grannies and aunts unto the third and fourth generation, and meek submission in the bedroom. Contaminating western notions of a woman's identiy must be kept out – but, of course, cannot be.

[illegible] the cast slip in and out of roles, regardless of sex and age, exactly as in *Fen* and just as delightfully. Zohra Segal, whom I think I recall as [illegible] in an [illegible] mischief, whether as a precocious little horror in a school nativity play or an old dear shocked after telling her grandson to shut up. Feroza Syal, further establishing herself as an actress to watch while barely into her twenties, switches from a rebellious daughter to a Leicester lady throatily crying bananas as to the manner born while telling stinking Blacks to keep their paws off.

But this free casting can blunt the effect: two Heathrow officials sweeping immigrants around are converted from telling caricature into comic turn, and despite Lou Wakefield's beautifully precise maleness the Indian boy's stealthy westernization is masked by his regular appearance as an angelic English girl.

While the Royal Court audience's tendency to treat the play as farce makes it hard to judge, Carole Hayman's production sometimes loses confidence in its own intensity; the beloved cow, a crucial image of home as well as a religious symbol, shambles on as a panto darling.

By an inspired stroke, it also clinches the idea of woman as cattle as well as chattel: Ms Syal sarcastically enumerating her selling points to an outraged prospective father-in-law is answered later by a market scene auctioning pedigree beauties with full udders, fine legs and good breeding prospects.

Ms Faress, who can make you feel anguish simply by widening her eyes, finds herself in mental hospital (the second wife in succession to do so at this theatre) while still waiting for a future that contains her longed-for equality and sense of self within the world she knows and loves.

Anthony Masters

Concerts

Philharmonia/Rattle
Festival Hall/Radio 3

Never mind the title, feel the music. In calling their present festival "Mahler, Strauss and their influence" the Philharmonia have managed to choose a location that is at once dubiously grammatical, offensively educational in its connotations and capable of being seen through by the suspicious as an attempt to pull the Webern over their eyes. Simon Rattle's proposition in Monday's paper has more appeal, that the series is really about what happened to music after *Tristan*, but what it is in fact about, quite simply, is the outstanding performance of great music. Or so Tuesday's splendid opening concert encourages one to hope.

We began at the beginning, with a performance of the *Tristan* prelude so cogently sustained as to be faintly alarming, but alarming more in a moral than in an emotional way. Wagner's awesome legacy, Mr Rattle suggested, was an idea that defies the control we exercise over music when we can understand it in terms of some system. There are no easy answers to that initial phrase, only a long continuation which ought, of course, to last four hours but which here laid down a challenge that will be variously met within the concerts of the next two weeks.

First into the lists was Berg, and aptly so, for Mr Rattle indicated without any perversion of the facts how the D minor Adagio from *Wozzeck* is yet another struggle with the basic shape of *Tristan*, just as the opera itself, like all great twentieth-century operas, is another history of people who have lost that control over their thoughts and actions for which tonality gave them a metaphor.

The scales, as it were, dropped from one's ears and, though I have heard this music conducted brilliantly by Boulez, Abbado and Colin Davis among others, I cannot claim that before this performance I had really heard it at all.

The rest of the *Wozzeck* Suite was equally revelatory. While Elise Ross lived a marvellous Marie at the centre, her expressive volatility flung out of her in beautiful song, the orchestra rippled with disjointed echoes, parodies and alternatives, as if placing the heroine in a delusion of laughing mirrors. And it was all so miraculously played: the veils of water music lifting one after another in different shades of translucent grey, the military music fiercely precise, the solo clarinet awful in its mockery.

Mahler's First Symphony, after the interval, did not quite exist on this exalted level until the last movement, or maybe Mr Rattle sees the symphony as properly beginning here, just as he had seen its first movement properly beginning with the sunburst of D major near the end. In any event, it is absolutely clear that these concerts are not to be missed.

Paul Griffiths

EBS/Gardiner
St John's

Sometimes one feels like writing only a one-word review, and in this case the word would be "yes". But a few details may help. This second concert in the current pair associated with Malcolm Bilson's project of recording all the Mozart piano concertos on an eighteenth-century-style piano was an exhilarating affair. It was slightly nervy, slightly unfinished, but none the worse for that, for this was playing (from both pianist and the English Baroque Soloists) that sprang from a fresh, direct musical impulse and used old instruments as a means to a purposeful expressive end.

Perhaps, when the recordings of these two concertos are made, some small points can be tidied: when the orchestra can match the crystalline clarity of Bilson's four semiquavers in the main theme of K459 in F major or the supple ease of his turn in the central movement's melody, Bilson will in his turn adopt a less hectic approach to the figurations of K415's first movement, which at times threatened to run away with itself.

But all the sparkle, wit and fierce incisiveness that the fortepiano can bring to this music was present in Bilson's sharp-edged account of the K459 Concerto's superb finale, with the orchestra's fugal irruptions sounding – for once balanced in scale and tautly driven by John Eliot Gardiner – almost terrifying. The speed of the slow movement raised eyebrows (and conjured up the delicious notion of a Susanna singing "Deh vieni" at this lick) while over-taxing the wind – the softly echoing flute honourably excepted.

There is less striking musical substance in the C major Concerto, K415, with its odd contrasts between very intimate discourse and full-scale ceremonial. The reduction of the strings to one desk in the solo passages did not quite work, but Bilson concentrated all the concerto's emotion into the adagio interruptions to the scampering finale, where the decorations over pizzicato strings had a spine-tingling beauty.

Before the Mozart, Haydn's 84th Symphony, strongly controlled by Gardiner, with a passage of eerie seriousness in the finale to which the transparent textures of the instruments added an incomparable directness.

Nicholas Kenyon

Dance

Royal Ballet
Sadler's Wells

What a pleasure to be able to say something complimentary for once about the size of the Sadler's Wells stage. For the new production of *Petrushka*, it is a positive advantage not to have the action surrounded by wide open spaces. The ballet, after all, was created at the Châtelet, not the largest of theatres: the two middle scenes are supposed to take place inside the puppets' small booths, and even the fairground scenes occur in a little space tucked away among the sideshows.

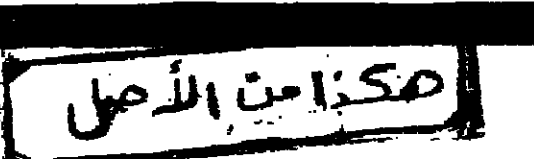
I have already welcomed most aspects of John Auld's staging for Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet when it was premièred at Eastbourne last month. Alain Dubreuil gives a thoughtful, sensitive account of the title part, and Margaret Barbieri's presence as the ballerina doll demonstrates how much the role gains from having a real ballerina play it.

For the first London performance, David Bintley played the old showman, another example of his ability to bring new understanding to a familiar character, this time by the significance he gave to the magician's trickery – making the flute appear "from nowhere" much more credibly than usual, and concentrating on mysterious passes of the hands over the dead Petrushka before showing the crowd that he was only a doll.

The augmented orchestra was not at its best on this occasion (nor in Auber's music for *Les Rendezvous* that preceded the Stravinsky). On stage, however, *Petrushka* found the company performing as a cohesive and skilled team. Incidentally, when the Wells stage is enlarged, which cannot be too soon, it will still be possible to mask in the sides of the proscenium opening to retain the splendidly intimate effect.

Raymonda Act III, which ended this programme, really needs more space, to let its ensembles breathe and even to allow the solos to be danced with the expansiveness they need. However, the third solo was given with a pleasing fluency by Mandy-Jayne Richardson on this occasion, and the male *pas de quatre* went with crisp vigour. Best of all was David Wall, returning to his old company from Covent Garden to dance Jean de Brienne because of David Ashmole's injury.

John Percival



Council tenant entitled to raise *ultra vires* defence

Wandsworth London Borough Council v Winder

Before Lord Justice Ackner, Lord Justice Robert Goff and Lord Justice Parker.

[Judgment delivered March 29]

It was not contrary to public policy or an abuse of the process of the court for a defendant in an action to rely on a defence which challenged the *vires* of public law decisions if the defence was founded on existing private law rights which were not dependent on those public law decisions and accordingly, the defendant was not required to challenge the decisions by proceeding by way of judicial review.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Ackner dissenting) so held when allowing an appeal by the appellant, Mr Paul Winder, against the order of Judge White at Wandsworth County Court that certain paragraphs of the appellant's defence and the whole of his counterclaim be struck out as an abuse of the process of the court.

Mr John Matthew Bowyer for the appellant; Mr Geoffrey Stephenson for the council.

LORD JUSTICE ACKNER, dissenting, said that the council let one of their council flats to the appellant on a weekly tenancy. In pursuance of their statutory obligation under the Housing Act 1957, the council in 1981 resolved to increase the rent and served the appellant with a notice of increase. The appellant objected to that increase because he considered it excessive and continued to pay the original rent.

The following year there was a further resolution by the council and a further notice of increase of rent was served on the appellant. Again he refused to pay the increase.

A notice seeking possession was served on him followed by a claim in the county court claiming possession on the ground of failure to pay rent lawfully due.

The defendant denied that he owed any sums to the council contending that the council's decisions to make the increases were *ultra vires* and void and each of the notices was likewise *ultra vires* and void.

The council applied to strike out the defence and counterclaim on the ground that they were an abuse of the process of the court, relying on *O'Reilly v Mackman* ([1983] 2 AC 237). The appellant contended that that decision only dealt with the initiation of proceedings and the rule of public policy which it declared did not apply to a defendant wishing to raise a defence involving a matter of public law.

The county court judge, on the council's appeal from the registar's decision, held that there was no distinction to be drawn between the raising of an issue of public law by way of a claim or by way of defence, and allowed the appeal.

The appellant's contract of tenancy clearly gave him certain private law rights against the council. He submitted that by his defence he was setting up private law rights. His Lordship did not agree.

The appellant accepted that the council had the statutory right to increase his rent. His complaint was that the council had exceeded their statutory powers in resolving to increase his rent by so great a sum.

The true basis of the defence was that circumstances did not reasonably require the rent to be increased to the exte... which the council resolved. That was the only foundation of his contention that the notices of increase of rent were *ultra vires* and void. He had put forward no other defence. The appellant was accordingly not setting up any private law right.

The resolutions which he was attacking were resolutions of a statutory body, pursuant to their statutory powers and duties, applicable to the rents of all or a particular category of council tenants, and affected the rights and liabilities of their ratepayers.

The appellant was thus clearly challenging a decision made by a public body performing its public functions in a field of public law. That was the limit of his challenge.

If the appellant was setting up some private law right, that could not affect the reality of the situation that the essence of the dispute was the validity of the notices. The direct issue of public law then arose merely at one remove and was of no significance – see *Cocks v Thanet District Council* ([1983] 2 AC 286) where the private law right set up was a right claimed under statute and the rule in *O'Reilly v Mackman* was nevertheless applied.

Did the principle of public policy declared by the House of Lords in *O'Reilly v Mackman* apply where the challenge was made by way of defence and not by the initiation of proceedings?

The decisions of the Lords, expressly or by necessary implication suggested that a challenge by way of defence to a claim by a public authority to enforce its decision in a field of public law amounted to an abuse of process.

The public policy requirement declared by Lord Diplock in *O'Reilly v Mackman* when expressed in positive terms was that a person seeking to establish that a decision of a public authority infringed rights to which he was entitled to protection under public law had to proceed by an application for an order for judicial review under Order 53 of the Rules of the Supreme Court. If that was the correct statement of the principle, there was no warrant for distinguishing between methods adopted to establish the infringement.

The justification for the public policy as declared in *O'Reilly v Mackman* (at 280-281, 284) applied irrespective of the manner in which the challenge was made, be it by initiating an action or by raising a defence.

As against those considerations, the appellant relied strongly on observations made by Lord Wilberforce in *Davy v Spelthorne Borough Council* (*The Times* October 18, 1983; [1983] 3 WLR 709, 742).

To confine the rule of public policy to challenges made by way of an ordinary action and to exclude those challenges made by defence was to strike at the very basis of the public policy rule itself and inevitably create wholly unacceptable anomalies.

Lord Diplock fully recognized that the rule of public policy might on occasions have the effect that persons would lose their entitlement hitherto enjoyed of impugning a public authority's decision because of the time restraints incorporated in the judicial review procedure.

Finally, there was no substance in the complaint that to apply the public policy rule would give rise to multiplicity of proceedings. If the proper course was to apply under Order 53 there should be no need for the initiation of an action by the local authority and the necessity of a defence.

However in the unusual situation where a defence had to be entered, the action was then simply stayed pending the outcome of the judicial review proceedings. If they failed then there was no defence to the claim; if they succeeded then the claim failed and the only issue that might arise was if there was a counterclaim to recover money already paid.

The principle of public policy as decided in *O'Reilly v Mackman* constrained his Lordship to decide that the appellant's challenge of the council's decision to increase his rent by the entry of a defence to the claim was an abuse of the process of the court. Accordingly, his Lordship would dismiss the appeal.

LORD JUSTICE ROBERT GOFF said that the county court judge had been invited to draw a distinction between claims and defences and to hold that whereas a claim in which a public law decision was challenged had to be made by an application for judicial review, nevertheless a defence which raised such a challenge did not require such application to be made.

The solution to the problem did not lie in drawing any such distinction. The council were claiming possession of a council flat and arrears of rent. The appellant's case was that he was not in arrears and so the council were not entitled to possession.

At the heart of the dispute lay the appellant's challenge to the *vires* of the decisions of the council authorizing two notices of increase of rent. The appellant's case was that he had never been under any obligation to pay more than the previously establishd rent.

The central issue in the case related to the validity of the decisions made by a public authority which affected not only the appellant but many, if not most of those who lived in the borough of Wandsworth. A decision on the issue would affect the appellant's private law rights.

The council submitted that the public interest in good administration was so strong that every challenge to a decision of a public authority had to made within the procedure established by Order 53.

The appellant, however, submitted that his private law rights could not be affected by the procedural changes brought into effect by Order 53.

O'Reilly v Mackman was not concerned with private law rights. The House of Lords did not address itself to the question whether a citizen's invocation of the ordinary procedure of the courts to enforce, or to invoke the protection of his private law rights should in any way be affected by the principle enunciated in that case.

In *Cocks v Thanet District Council* the House of Lords applied the principle in *O'Reilly v Mackman* in circumstances where private law rights of the plaintiff were relevant, though in a very limited sense.

The decision with which *Cocks v Thanet* was concerned did not affect private law rights; it was a decision which, taking the form it did, had the result that there did not come into existence certain private law rights which would have come into existence had the decision been different.

In the present case, the appellant was relying upon his pre-existing private law rights arising from his occupation of his council flat and from the previously established rent. His challenge to the decisions of the council was not a challenge to decisions which gave rise to those rights.

Cocks v Thanet provided no authority for the council's argument.

His Lordship found it difficult to conceive of a case where a citizen's invocation of the ordinary procedure of the courts in order to enforce his private law rights, or his reliance on his private law rights by way of defence in an action brought against him, could amount to an abuse of the process of the court.

It could not be right that his so proceeding should be held to amount to an abuse of process if the effect would be that his power to enforce his private law rights, or to rely upon them by way of defence, either would or might be adversely affected.

Order 53 or section 31 of the Supreme Court Act 1981 were not intended in any way to curtail a citizen's private law rights.

O'Reilly v Mackman was concerned with the abuse which arose where a person failed to employ a procedure for challenging public law decisions which since 1977 had become free of disadvantages which were manifestly unfair to applicants.

If the council's argument were accepted, litigants could be required to employ a procedure which was manifestly unfair to them in that it would deprive them of the benefit of rights which were theirs by law.

As for delay in initiating proceedings for the enforcement of private law rights, the policy of the law was contained in the Limitation Act 1980 and in the equitabale doctrine of laches.

The council's argument, if accepted, would result in the imposition in certain cases of a far more drastic period of limitation for the enforcement of private law rights than Parliament had yet envisaged.

The challenge to the public law decision was made by way of defence. The crucial question was whether in his defence the defendant was relying upon his private law rights.

The appellant's case was that he had a secure tenancy and that, since the two notices of increase were ineffective, his private law rights in respect of rent were those which existed before the notices of increased rent were served, and on that basis there was no ground for depriving him of the benefit of his secure tenancy.

He was therefore invoking the protection of his existing private law rights. Furthermore it was plain that to require him to proceed by way of judicial review would not merely adversely affect the private law rights upon which he sought to rely but effectively divest him of them, because the time had long since passed when he was free to make any such application.

His Lordship fully appreciated that public authorities might be exposed to great inconvenience if they were unable to invoke the principle in *O'Reilly v Mackman*. But such inconvenience might arise in many cases where a citizen successfully challenged action by a public authority, affecting his private law rights, under a decision by the public authority which proved to have been made *ultra vires*.

It did not follow that there was an abuse of process by a citizen in invoking the assistance of the ordinary courts, by action or by defence, in order to enforce or to claim protection of his private law rights.

If it was thought that any limit should be placed upon citizens proceeding in this way in the interests of good administration, that was a matter for Parliament. For those reasons, the appeal would be allowed.

LORD JUSTICE PARKER, agreeing, said that if the council's argument was correct it would appear that, by way of provisions which were essentially procedural, a person's substantive rights under the law had been vitally affected.

It was to be observed that in *Cocks v Thanet District Council* the existence of the private right depended upon a public law decision in the plaintiff's favour first being made, whereas in the present case the appellant had an existing private law right which required for its alteration either a contractual variation of rent or a valid public law decision followed by the necessarily prescribed steps to implement it.

It was not an abuse of process to raise his challenge by way of defence. He had attacked not only the rent itself but the decision making process and it was plain that had he desired himself to initiate such a challenge his proper course would have been to do so under Order 53. But that made no difference. The appeal would be allowed.

Solicitors: Mr Michael Radney, Wandsworth; Mrs S. G. Smith, Wandsworth.

Counsel's duty to apply for three judges

Lord Justice Ackner commented on March 29 at the conclusion of the appeal that – but for judicial intervention, the case would have been heard by a two-judge court. A third judge had been added to the Court of Appeal because Lord Justice Robert Goff and his Lordship considered the appeal clearly raised matters of general importance of some complexity and was one upon which there could well be a difference of judicial opinion.

The Master of the Rolls had pointed out in *Practice Note Court of Appeal: New Procedure* ([1982] 1 WLR 1312, 1318) that where an appeal fell within the jurisdiction of a two-judge court, but raised issues of such complexity of general importance that a three-judge court was desirable, the parties should apply to the Registrar for a special listing before a three-judge court – an application which needed to be made with discretion.

It appeared that the entitlement to make such an application was being overlooked by the Bar. It was to be hoped that in future, counsel at an early stage, preferably when settling the notice of appeal would give special consideration to the question, and where appropriate make the necessary application.

Those observations were not intended to encourage applications which did not come within the practice direction. However, it should not be left to the judiciary to take the initiative, not only because they did not always have an opportunity to read the papers sufficiently well in advance of the hearing to be able to add in time a third judge, but also because the complexities and/or importance of the appeal, while well known to counsel, might not be apparent on a first reading of the papers.

In *Auty and Others v National Coal Board* (*The Times* April 3) Mr Peter H. Goldsmith was omitted from the list of counsel for the National Coal Board.

Inferring identity of person charged

Allen and Others v Ireland

Before Lord Justice Kerr and Mr Justice Nolan

[Judgement delivered April 3]

A magistrate could take judicial notice of the ordinary processes of arrest, charge and bail within his jurisdiction so as to raise at least a *prima facie* case that a person who surrendered to bail and answered to the name laid in the charge was the same person as the person who had been arrested, charged and bailed, although of course that inference was rebuttable.

Further, the court was entitled to hold in a charge relating to threatening behaviour contrary to section 5(a) of the Public Order Act 1936, as amended by section 7 of the Race Relations Act 1965 and Schedule 1 to the Criminal Law Act 1977, that there was a case to answer although there was no evidence that a person had participated in the threatening behaviour with which he was charged.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held on a case stated by the Highbury Corner Stipendiary Magistrate when it remitted the matter to the magistrate to continue the trial against Bryan Allen and others.

Mr David Bean for the defendants; Mr Victor B. A. Temple for the prosecutor.

Lord Justice KERR, giving the reserved judgment of the court, said that the case arose out of the mass exodus from Euston Station of a group of about 250 football supporters after their arrival from Birmingham on August 27, 1983, and their subsequent behaviour in Euston Road until their arrest shortly afterwards.

The charge against all members of the group was one of threatening behaviour. They were taken to three separate police stations and were to be tried on various dates in groups of about ten.

The trial of the first group began on October 12, 1983, and at the close of the prosecution case it was submitted by the defence that there was no case to answer.

His Lordship said that the issue involved did not relate to the guilt or innocence of those defendants but solely as to whether or not they had a case to answer.

It was contended that there was no evidence of individual identification nor any direct evidence to show that the defendants formed part of the group which was arrested, charged and subsequently bailed. Normally, there was some evidence linking the identity of the defendant before the court with that of the person who was alleged to have committed the offence: see *Cooke v McCann* ([1974] RTR 131) and *Hays v Ministry of Transport* ([1982] 1 NZLR 25).

His Lordship said that the necessary link of identification was established on a *prima facie* basis since the reason for the defendants' appearance at court on October 12 and pleas to the charges in their names concerning the events on August 27 was that they had been arrested, charged and bailed as part of the group of persons who were alleged to have used threatening behaviour in Euston Road on that day and they presented themselves at court on that day.

On the substance of the charge, it was established from *R v Allan and Others* ([1965] 1 QB 130) and *Purrish and Others v Garfitt* (Divisional Court, unreported, June 12, 1975) that a defendant's voluntary presence during an affray or as part of a crowd engaged in threatening behaviour was capable of raising a *prima facie* case of participation against the defendant.

Mere voluntary presence was not sufficient to convict a defendant unless the court was satisfied that he at least gave some overt encouragement to the others who were directly involved.

Each defendant in the present case could give evidence that not only was he himself innocent of the threatening behaviour but also he had not encouraged others so to act; that he had been swept up in the crowd without the opportunity of dissociating himself from what others were doing.

The magistrate was right to conclude that the defendants did have a case to answer.

Solicitors: Victor Mischon & Co; Solicitor, Metropolitan Police.

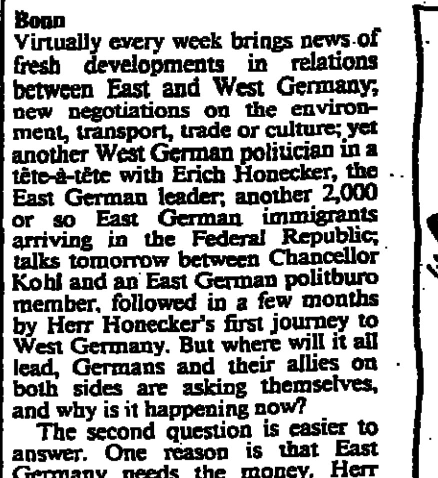
Decisions about wards

H v Lambeth London Borough Council

Mr Justice Balcombe, on ratifying a decision taken by Lambeth London Borough Council to consent to an abortion on a 16-year-old ward in their care, said in the Family Division on April 2 that it must be made clear to all social workers that no major decision concerning a ward of court could be taken without the leave of the court. An application could be made to a judge sitting in the Family Division at extremely short notice.

A termination of pregnancy was a major decision which required the approval of the court. The operation had been in the best interests of the ward in the present case but there had been a certain lack of liaison between departments at Lambeth.

It was imperative that all local authorities should be aware that no major decision concerning wards who were in care could be taken without the leave of the court.



THE TIMES DIARY

Open and shut case

Tomorrow Cardinal Hume, Ken Livingstone, Lady Donaldson, the Lord Mayor, and a host of other "names" are expected to attend the opening of a Hackney employment centre for ex-offenders. Dignitaries should forget their speeches of optimism. I can report that on April 30, its doors will be closed. The surprise news of its closure has just been delivered by phone to Apex, the charity which operates the centre, from the Manpower Services Commission, which said the £350,000 funding for the Hackney centre and six others would not be renewed on May 1. When they close, more than 1,000 ex-offenders registered for work and training will be turned away, and Apex's 35 staff, who have found 400 jobs for 2,500 unemployed since the first centres opened, will be on the dole.

The one member absent from tomorrow's farce will be the charity's chairman, Baroness Seear, who, to her embarrassment, is also MSC chairman for the Bucks and Herts area. She will be at Keele University in Staffordshire addressing a convention of voluntary groups – about employment.

Smoked out

As the BMA is being attacked for its "immoral" advice to doctors to invest in tobacco shares, I see that W H Smith has been under fire from its staff for banning the latest album by the American "heavy metal" group Van Halen because the cover features a baby holding a cigarette. Three W H Smith managers protested that the sleeve would cause no more offence than the "average horror paperback jacket such as *Squirm*". The moralists thought again, and now the album is in stock with the offending cigarette concealed with sticky tape.

O O ye of little faith. Lothian Region's social services has sited the Esk Green Old Folks Home in Short Hope Street, Musselburgh.

Irish cream

Ireland has decided to convert *its* literary philistines with a "top of the Irish" list of its best modern writers. The selection, to be announced on May 8, is inevitably causing controversy. Short story writer William Trevor, novelist Brian Moore and poet Seamus Heaney are on it. So too is Samuel Beckett, which suggests a move towards his rehabilitation. Beckett's distaste for the Irish Republic, which he left more than 50 years ago, once extended to the banning of all productions of his plays, except by undergraduates at Trinity College, Dublin. Conspicuously absent, however, is Edna O'Brien, now widely regarded as a good Catholic girl gone wrong with her pro-birth control views. Publishers should take their cue – she's bound to do a Burgess.

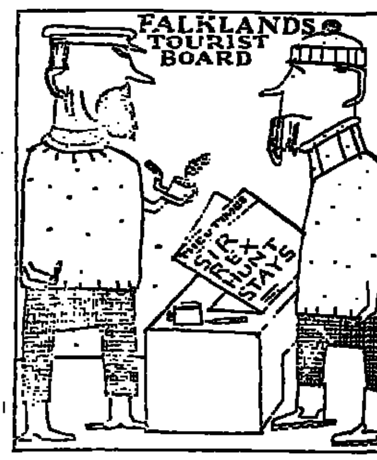
Surrey fringe

"Clockwork Wallie" Goldsmith, chairman of the right-wing Institute of Directors, must be beside himself today. First, 87 of his Surrey branch members vote, in upper-crust Esher, in favour of saving the GLC. Now the bounders have the audacity to ask Red Ken's press secretary, Nita Clarke, to address a party of IOD members in Croydon on May 30. The subject? "Why directors get a bad press".

Olivier regrets

Lord Olivier's return to acting, after his illness last year, now seems indefinitely postponed. He was due to take the lead role in a new TV play, *Love Song*, based on an idea by Jeffrey Archer. But yesterday Anglia said it had agreed to release him from his contract. It is now searching for a replacement. Meanwhile Olivier is in Ischia for a month-long family holiday.

BARRY FANTONI



'Just as well – he's our nearest thing to an historical monument'

Amicable gender

A frisson of excitement rippled through the legal profession as they read in a *Times* Law Report last week that a woman barrister had acted as *amica curiae* – and to a three-judge Court of Appeal. Indeed some wrote to protest that it was "offensive" and "a slur" on the advocate and the judges. But may I assure them they had made the philosophical error of confusing the secondary meaning in Latin of *amica* as "concubine," "mistress", or "courtesan" with the grammatically pure but uninterestingly sterile lawyers' Latin reference to a friend in the feminine.

PHS

Germany: Michael Binyon looks beyond the new East-West links

Bonn

Virtually every week brings news of fresh developments in relations between East and West Germany; new negotiations on the environment, transport, trade or culture; yet another West German politician in a tête-à-tête with Erich Honecker, the East German leader; another 2,000 or so East German immigrants arriving in the Federal Republic; talks tomorrow between Chancellor Kohl and an East German politburo member, followed in a few months by Herr Honecker's first journey to West Germany. But where will it all lead, Germans and their allies on both sides are asking themselves, and why is it happening now?

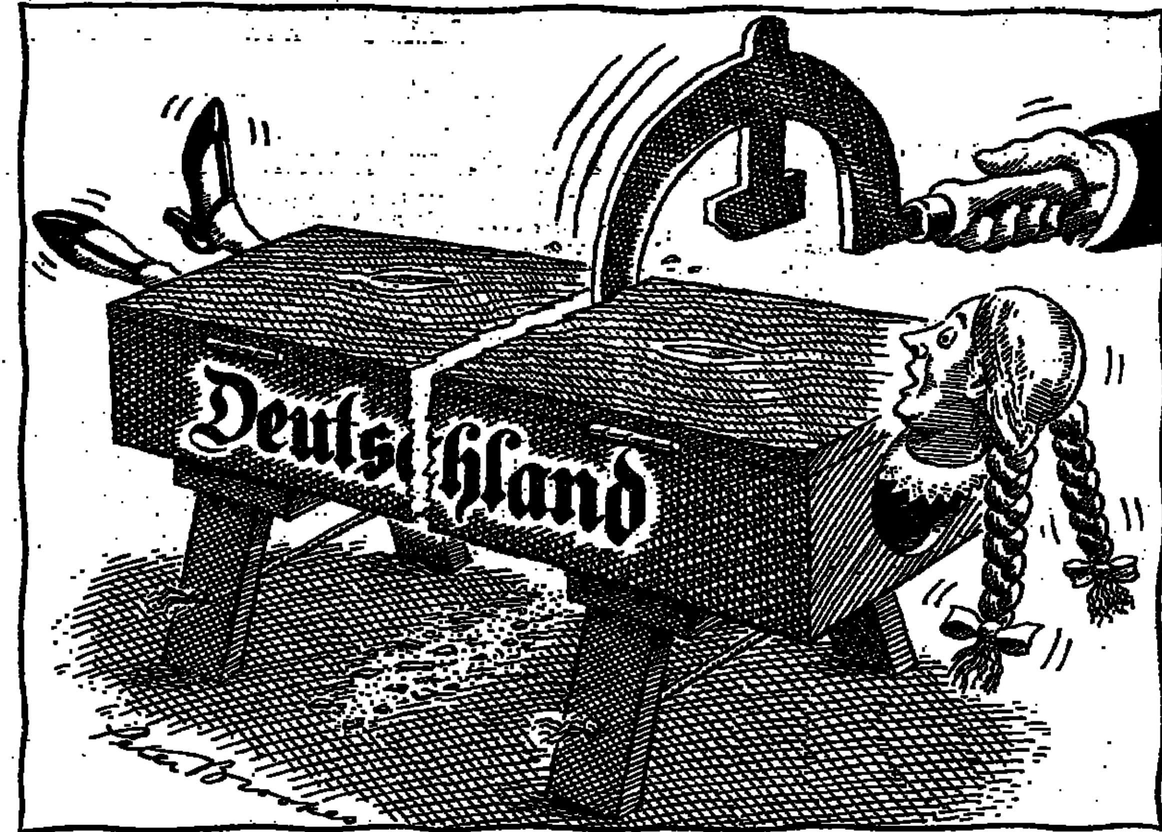
The second question is easier to answer. One reason is that East Germany needs the money. Herr Honecker has staked his regime's reputation on its ability to provide a decent standard of living, or at least one that is significantly better than in other East block countries. Money and credit are tight: it is clear that the Russians are in no position to underpin the gains of recent years, and although Herr Honecker might not like it, there is no other western country willing to offer the kind of help he can get from Bonn.

But politics are as important as economics. Moscow has evidently decided to allow its most important Warsaw Pact ally more room for manoeuvre. By this it may hope to entice West Germany away from its Nato anchorings, and to remind Bonn that Moscow has the ultimate say on relations with East Berlin. Or the Russians may argue pragmatically that the West Germans may as well foot the bill and buy off any discontent in the GDR lest it develop into a serious and destabilizing challenge to the communist regime. Poland was a warning.

East Berlin, for its part, has compelling political reasons for wanting to stabilize the delicate relationship with its bigger, richer, stronger western neighbour, especially at a time of bad overall East-West relations. It has long been clear that the policy of *Abgrenzung* – distancing itself from the Federal Republic – would not work.

East Germany cannot strengthen its legitimacy in the eyes of its own people in opposition and contradistinction to West Germany. It had to take the risk of rapprochement. And this is now much easier with a conservative government in Bonn than when the Social Democrats were in power. Communists find it easier to live with conservatives than with those whose politics trespass on their own territory.

All this coincides with another powerful movement in East Germany today: the rediscovery that it is a German, not simply a communist, state and that it shares a culture and history with its western neighbour. The celebrations for Luther's centenary helped, so has the partial rehabilitation of the Prussian heritage. And the Protestant Church has reinforced the deeply-felt conviction in East Germany, as well as in the West, that both countries have a special moral responsibility to strive for peace, preserve detente and prevent war from ever arising again from German soil.



Closer, but can they ever be rejoined?

West German politicians admit that after years of initiatives from Bonn that were met with stony silence in East Berlin, it is now Herr Honecker who seems to be setting the pace. At the height of his power and authority he has responded with alacrity to Bonn's signals, and forced through those measures which he knows are so symbolically important to the West – the dismantling of border scatter-guns, the releasing of emigrants, the abolition of compulsory currency exchange for visitors under 15 – in the face of what may be tough opposition within the communist apparatus.

But what is the long-term aim? For East Germany it is legal confirmation of the status quo, de jure recognition as a completely separate country. For West Germany it is the exact opposite: the establishment of a normal, though special, relationship leading eventually to reunification.

The key word is "eventually". For no responsible West German politician now sees reunification as anything other than a very distant prospect – one that will not come about without an overall peace settlement in Europe and the agreement of the four wartime allies. Such a thing will not happen until the Soviet Union gives up its empire in Eastern Europe.

Indeed many politicians regret that the country is lumbered with the reunification concept, which still has a strong claim on the sentiments of many of the older generation, for they insist that greater unity is still possible without necessarily leading to the fusion of the two German states. And the achievement of this unity – be it cultural, political or in some other dimension – is the real, though rather vague, aim of Bonn's present policies towards the GDR.

There will have to be further concessions on Bonn's part. Herr Honecker has laid down his four conditions for a real normalization of relations: the closure of the Salzgitter Centre that officially registers the shootings and other theoretically punishable offences committed by East German guards along the border, the fixture of the boundary along the Elbe as being in the middle of the river, recognition of separate East German citizenship and the transformation of the representations in Bonn and East Berlin into ordinary embassies.

The first demand is already being discussed here, since the centre – which has recorded more than 31,000 offences since the building of the Berlin Wall – is of only symbolic use, and a formula could be found for its disbandment. The second is hotly controversial at the moment, with the Social Democrats calling the East German claim reasonable and conservatives insisting that only the Allies have the power to alter their 1944 decision that the border should run along the bank on the East German side. But here again a solution is possible. The last two demands are both constitutionally and emotionally impossible for West Germany to accept, and East Berlin knows that.

But even if both countries agreed, or agreed to disagree, on these points, what further steps are possible without running into the buffers of opposing ideologies? The answer is, sadly, not very many so long as Europe is divided. Both East and West Germany have to look over their shoulders at the suspicions of their respective allies. Each has tacitly agreed that it will not do anything to rouse the fears of the other's partners. And just as Herr Honecker is able to buy a little freedom of action with his rock-solid loyalty to Moscow, so the Christian Democrats in Bonn insist they are able to do more to further inter-German relations than the SPD because West Germany's allies know they are utterly reliable as solid Nato partners.

The truth is that in spite of all the noise and flurries, the high hopes and publicity, nothing fundamental is changing in relations between the two German states. Improvement is a long, slow haul, as both sides know. The results will only show in better links across the border, more human contacts, a sense of shared history and destiny. But that for Bonn is enough for now. To expect more would be Utopian.

These British accounts of the Falklands war are best-sellers in Buenos Aires but we still cannot read their side. Alan Franks reports on a campaign to lift the import ban on Argentine books

The war of words goes on, but now it's one-way

Britain's reluctance to trade words (the printed kind) with Argentina two years after the Falklands conflict is proving a source of frustration and embarrassment to British publishers and booksellers. It is now acquiring a new irony in the light of the fact that Buenos Aires publishers are doing a brisk trade in translations of British books on the subject.

Figures coming from the Argentine capital suggest that the account by *The Sunday Times* Insight team has proved the most popular, selling 35,000 within hours of publication, and now topping the 50,000 mark. *The Sunday Express* pictorial chronicle is to appear this month, with an initial print run of 30,000. The publishers say these books are not being snapped up solely by Anglo-Argentines and British residents.

"People are now very interested in the British position", a spokesman for one of the publishers, Hyspamerica, says. "We know that your position and ours are very different, but, especially since the elections here, we want to find out what you think. Many Argentines believe that what their country did two years ago was the illegal action of an illegal government in a just cause. We should like very much to publish more books about the Malvinas by your writers."

Hyspamerica is now printing three more books which are, to say the least, rather hostile to the British position, while not condoning the Argentine invasion. They are Anthony Barnett's *Iron Britannia*, a study of the political roots from which grew Britain's response to the crisis, and two chilling salvoes against the British government and its leadership, Tam Dalyell's *One Man's Falklands* and *Thatcher's Torpedo*. Together with Lieutenant David Tinker's posthumous *A Message From The Falklands*, published in Buenos Aires by Emece, they form part of a broad spectrum of British opinion on the conflict which is beginning to appear in Argentina.

To set a reciprocal tide in motion here, publishers are aware that they might be flouting the law even by purchasing English rights from Argentine houses, and the possibility is being examined of working through Spanish intermediaries who could acquire and then re-assign English rights from Argentina.

Judging by the success in Britain of the latest Falklands book, (Gavshon and Rice's *The Sinking of the Belgrano*), the appetite for the subject remains strong and it would be wrong to assume that Argentine works would not sell. Grant and Cutler, one of the principal British importers of Latin American literature, wish to bring no fewer than 14 "Malvinas" books. Their absence from the shelves of British libraries and bookshops can be seen as an indication that demand seldom asserts itself fully where there is no supply.

One manuscript certain to attract the interest of many British publishers is now being worked on by Argentina's foreign secretary at the time of the invasion, Senor Costa Mendez.

When the general trade ban was mitigated last September to allow the importation of books by individuals and institutions, the far more substantial traffic of consignments for commercial resale in Britain remained outlawed. As a result, the peculiar situation has arisen whereby Argentine suppliers have started to trade directly with individual British purchasers, circumventing their traditional middlemen. This has simply penalized certain UK specialist dealers in the field while allowing Argentine exports to be restored to something like their full flow – the very thing which the ban was intended to prevent.

At the quadrennial congress of the International Publishers' Association in Mexico City three weeks ago, there was a unanimous vote in support of the British Publishers Association's opposition to the ban; but the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in London, despite rumours of distaste for the ban within its own ranks, has remained unmoved. Parcels of pristine volumes, some of which are required reading for British students of Latin American affairs, still languish in the custody of HM Customs at Dover, redeemable by the purchasers only on condition of their immediate re-export and the payment of a £150 release fee.

The impasse is not without its black humour; while in Mexico City last month, Graham C. Greene, managing director of Jonathan Cape, told the congress how one of his house's books, having been considered for some time by an Argentine publisher, was finally returned only to be impounded by Customs officials. Greene and other publishers are arguing that although Argentina is not a signatory to the Florence Agreement on the importing of educational, scientific and cultural materials, Britain should none the less be guided by the spirit of the compact in its attitude to exchanges of the printed word.

The agreement states that signatory countries may stop the import of relevant matter if it is likely to endanger national security, public order or public morals, yet no such claims are being made for these prohibited or impounded packages.

The Department of Trade and Industry has acknowledged that certain anomalies and injustices are bound to occur. In the course of a lengthy, and at times acrimonious, correspondence with Paul Channon, Minister for Trade, R. F. Cutler, chairman of Grant and Cutler, pointed out that one of his clients, the Royal Institute of International Affairs, had managed to acquire, shortly before Christmas, a number of volumes identical to those impounded, through one of the firm's Argentine competitors.

Set therefore against the Department of Trade's fear that precedent would attract a host of special pleaders is the booksellers' argument that there is already a *de facto* breach of the ban and that a wholesale lifting of it where books are concerned would represent the real consistency in government policy in the wake of the September mitigation.

But the arguments go deeper than this, and can be identified, according to Cutler's analysis, in three main categories: trade; historical/empirical; and moral. Reduced to their basic terms, they run as follows: while it is possible that the gesture should be made, Argentine book exports are but slightly dented; examples such as the Beira blockade and League of Nations sanctions against Mussolini over Abyssinia demonstrate the failure of such ploys to isolate the victim; finally, and most importantly, should not the written word command universal access in a non-totalitarian state? (And, incidentally, were not books exempted from the trade embargo which followed the Rhodesian declaration of UDI?). As far as the last point is concerned, it is no secret that British publishers felt some discomfiture at the Moscow Book Fair last October when their foreign counterparts found some of their titles missing from the stands and brayed a Babel of abuse against Soviet censorship.

Straws in the wind are blowing from the Foreign Office. One of them fluttered to R. F. Cutler's desk five weeks ago. A senior official wrote: "I must say I find your arguments impressive. So I am sure you will be pleased to hear that I have decided that we should now look again at all the implications of our policy on book imports from Argentina – although I am afraid I cannot make any promises about the outcome."

It is an outcome for which Mr Cutler is still waiting at his bookshop off the Strand – not entirely without hope.

Ronald Butt

Education: when an X is right

Mrs Thatcher decided recently that the possibility of a directly elected Inner London Education Authority should be put back on the Cabinet's agenda. It has now been discussed at a number of cabinet committee meetings, papers have been produced, and the Cabinet must make up its mind. Ministers know that a directly elected Ilea is what Conservatives on the present Ilea want. A meeting of Conservative governors of Ilea schools the other night also made sure that the parliamentary Under Secretary for Education, Mr Robert Dunn, took away the same impression after he had told them that the Government was reconsidering the way in which Ilea should be constituted after the abolition of the Greater London Council. If a directly elected Ilea is, after all, to be the Cabinet's decision, that could have important consequences for other aspects of London government and possibly for the management of education in Britain more generally.

Ilea at present comprises 35 members who are elected as GLC councillors for inner London and 13 nominated by the inner London boroughs. The Government had proposed that it should be replaced by a joint education board (JEB) composed entirely of people nominated by the inner London borough councils (and the City of London) from their own number. The principal alternative proposition, favoured by Mrs Thatcher herself at one stage, had been that education in inner London should be handed over to the boroughs (which manage it in outer London.) But quite apart from the difficulty some of the inner boroughs would have had in finding the financial resources to cope with it, it was felt to be quite wrong to put children at the mercy of the kind of incompetence and politicized educational ideology prevailing in some of the "red" far-left boroughs, such as Hackney, Islington and Tower Hamlets.

A nominated JEB had thus seemed settled but recently a group of important ministers have been converted to the idea of a directly elected Ilea by the opposition to the JEB among London Conservatives, and especially London Conservative MPs. These critics do not agree that nominated borough councillors would make an acceptably democratic assembly.

They believe that the JEB, with its power to determine its own expenditure and to levy a corresponding precept on the inner boroughs, would be subject (apart from general rate capping) to no better financial discipline than the wasteful Ilea, and that it would have the same politicized approach to education. They do not think that it would be possible to combine the duties of an ordinary borough councillor with those of a nominated JEB member, which would be virtually full-time. Either the boroughs would suffer, or they would nominate their less useful members to Ilea.

The case for a directly elected Ilea is much more attractive. Potentially, almost every voter, either as a parent, grandparent, or ex-child has an interest in education, a subject on which everyone has views. This encourages hope that there would be a bigger turnout for an educational election than would be possible in any other single-issue poll or even in local elections generally. Above all, such an arrangement might take education some way out of politics. The famed battles over Highbury School in Islington can be called into evidence. Twice threatened by a change of character or virtual extinction by the leftist establishment on Ilea, who detest the disciplined character it has inherited from the days of Rhodes Boyson's headship, it has twice been saved by local campaigns. And these campaigns were fought by Labour voters who want the school as it is but would never abandon their Labour allegiance in a local election on general issues.

Of course, the consequences of an elected Ilea cannot be certainly predicted. Would it really attract a sufficient turn-out on polling-day? Would enough candidates be able to dispense with a party label to enable the contest to be partly at least on non-political educational issues? Would Labour voters really resist voting for the party label of a candidate whose educational policies they disliked? Such a body ought, of course, to operate under greater financial discipline because (presumably) it would levy its own rate: voters would then know what they were paying for educational services, the cost of which is now hidden in the small print of the general rate. But should an elected Ilea be able to levy its own rate instead of precepting education on the boroughs?

It is only possible to guess the answers to most of these questions. Still less is it clear what the wider implications of an elected Ilea would be for the case of Greater London Conservatives who support the abolition of the present GLC but still insist that there should be a directly elected London body to take over some of the residual GLC functions which the Government intends to give to nominated joint boards and quangos. They hope (and some in the Cabinet fear) that a decision for an elected Ilea would be a Trojan horse leading also to government acceptance of an elected body to deal with such trans-London services as roads, the fire service and the rest.

There would be more good than harm if the Government did so agree. If there are genuinely London-wide functions which are to be dealt with by a London-wide appointed board or quango, why should they not be managed by a London-wide elected body? It does not have to be a general political body with certain functions excepted, as the GLC is. Its specific and limited functions would be prescribed and it would be shorn of the discretion to raise money which enables Mr Livingstone to waste it on his own political patronage. But the Government is in difficulties because it is making up policy as it goes along.

As the Tory GLC leader, Mr Alan Greengross, puts it: "They first postulated the solution and then spent a year trying to find the questions to fit it." If the Government were to agree to elections for a London-wide board for London-wide functions, that would be simply recognizing that local accountability still matters.

As for education, it is certain that the Joint Education Board would be heavily and permanently left-wing, whereas a directly elected Ilea might not be, and would at least give electors a chance to choose for themselves. It could give an opportunity to centrist or unlabelled candidates to help to free education from political criteria. It might be an instructive pilot scheme for the rest of the country. But above all, it might be better than what we have, whereas the JEB would be no better and might be worse. The Government should be bold and change its mind.

Paul Pickering

Why Suki risks a nuking

When the bailiffs moved the Greenham women out of their camp early yesterday, they gave me a bit of heavy breathing space. Whether cruise missiles are a threat to peace is a matter of opinion. But they are certainly a threat to marriage, giving the predatory female the ultimate excuse for a pre-emptive strike against the defenceless male.

What other pretext could there be for ringing up a man, a happily married man, at 4 am and arranging a "meeting" on a lonely stretch of heath near conveniently placed tents and Volkswagen caravanettes?

Wives may not be on their guard against this novel form of social behaviour since the media tend to portray Greenham Woman as foul-mouthed, two sizes bigger than a Belfast stoker and smelling like a hog badger. Alas, this is not always the case, and by parting with my card outside an airbase to a damsel with a face off a Mucha poster and pastel coloured leg-warmers, I started my present troubles. "And just who is this Suki?" snapped my wife of three months across the wedding-present pillows when I woke the other morning. "Suki who?" I replied unconvincingly.

Apparently in the small hours a lady called Suki had telephoned: "Is that Paul's flat? Look, we think the cruise missiles are moving again; could I speak to him? Do you think he could come up here now? I'm sure we could make it worth his while", she is said to have purred.

"Are you sure you've got the right number?" my wife asked incredulously. "Is this some kind of practical joke?" The Greenham lady then said it was far from being a jocular matter and indeed mankind's survival, womankind's too, was the most serious thing she could think of, and it was everyone's duty to lend a hand.

"Can he come out?" Suki reportedly repeated and was told politely, but frostily, by an increasingly suspicious spouse that in no way was I allowed to go and play with strangers at such an hour; could she ring back at a civilized time. "There is no appropriate time when it comes to the nuclear threat. Let me speak to Paul."

My wife was becoming tetchy: "You cannot speak to my husband: he has taken some Night Nurse because he has a cold and is fast asleep. I'm sorry. Goodnight, I mean Good Morning." But that was not enough.

"I suppose he would take Night Nurse and sleep through a nuclear war," said Suki. My Alice tartly added that at least one would be able to greet St Peter without a streaming cold. "I bet you're one of those barmy women that votes Tory and gives money to Olga Maitland," was the parting shot.

As I woke from my Night Nurse trance, dreaming of making a century against Pakistan, I could not think why Alice was wearing such a shrew-like expression. "Honestly, I've never heard of anyone called Suki," I kept saying. There were no customary Marmite soldiers with the breakfast egg, so I don't think she believed me.

Two night later a girl called Mary rang, and again I slept through it. "She sounded awfully well spoken," said Alice, one of those innocuous female statements which is quite Proustian in its levels of meaning. Did the mystery callers plan something more than loitering with intent outside a chilly airbase?

At times like this one turns to a priest, in this case one who belongs to CND. He told me of complicated plans for bands of activists, linked by CB radios, to block London's bridges, presumably to stop the odd launch from Kew Gardens or Battersea. "Of course it does bring people together, just like in the Sixties." he winked.

The only thing that worries me now is the thought of early morning phone calls from Molesworth or Holy Loch.

TIMES PAST THE TIMES

P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

IN THE WRONG HANDS

The Heckler and Koch MP5K is a light and compact 9mm sub-machine gun of high velocity and long range. It will fire at the rate of 900 rounds a minute from magazines of 15 or 30. It can be carried in a shoulder holster. The Metropolitan Police would like to have a few of them to add to its armoury. With security preparations being made for the visit to London of President Reagan and other leaders of the free world for the economic summit in June, this was a good time to indent for them. The Home Secretary has given his approval. His department denies that he was subject to any external pressure. All the same, in giving reassurance to the visitors' domestic protectors, it may help him to be able to say that these weapons will be available.

Approval should not have been given. Weapons of that nature have no place in the armouries of the police forces of Great Britain. Their presence there implies a readiness to resort to lethal combat to a degree incompatible with the principles of civil policing. The rapidity and scatter of their fire imply a willingness to inflict death and injury *en passant*, beside and beyond the target, to a degree that begins to conflict with the principles of justifiable homicide. Especially is that so among crowds or with bystanders – at the public appearances of our visitors in June for instance.

It is said that the rules governing the use of the submachine guns will be even stricter than the rules applicable to other firearms held by the Metropolitan Police, in the use of which 4,000 officers are trained. And they will be issued only on the authority of an assistant commissioner. But it is too soon after the Stephen Waldorf affair for there to be enough confidence in the training and judgment of the London police in this extension of their power.

More general considerations point the same way. The police are in an exposed position at the moment. A comprehensive redefinition of their powers is making its way through Parliament. They had hardly recovered from the traumas of Brixton and Toxteth than they were called upon to regulate picketing in the coalfields on a scale not before attempted. Their success so far has entailed novel and sometimes questionable tactics. These have been met with the complaint that the police are being given a paramilitary role. The proposition is absurd, but that does not mean that there are not plenty eager to believe it. It is not an opportune moment to arm the police in a fashion that really does give an ounce of substance to the paramilitary nonsense.

When President Reagan's secret service men step on to the tarmac here they leave their firearms behind them. The British authorities assume the major responsibility for the President's safety. They cannot shirk employment of the necessary means. Sub-machine guns at the ready would add nothing to the protection of any of the visitors from attempts by individual assassins: they can be stopped by high-velocity hand guns as well as by a jet of automatic fire. But it is possible to invent improbable contingencies – an ambush, a multiple heavily armed attack from the street – for which automatic weapons might be needed to repel assault. But at that point it becomes a matter for the military in aid of the police. The Special Air Service is highly trained in the use of such weapons, for just such emergencies, and the protection of VIPs has been part of their training.

If their review of the risks causes ministers to conclude that there must be heavily armed readiness against that sort of contingency, they should not jack up the weaponry of the police. They should deploy the SAS in company with the special branch, ready to take control *in extremis* at the word of the senior police officer present.

A LONG WAY TO CALIFORNIA

The result of the New York primary must consolidate Mr Walter Mondale's grip on the party machine. It must help him to limit any further encroachment from Senator Hart, though there are still many more primaries before California in June. New York was widely regarded as a make-or-break event in the race to select a Democratic presidential candidate. That was not just because of the large number of delegates which the state will send to the party convention. It also reflected the fact that the momentum of Senator Hart's campaign had swept through New England and built up a psychological and fashionable advantage which, even without a detailed political programme, is an essential element of American presidential politics. Nevertheless the effect of Senator Hart's campaign so far may have deprived Mr. Mondale of the nomination on the first ballot at the Convention. That is less serious for him than it would have been for any of the other candidates, given Mr Mondale's formidable control of the party machine.

Indeed the Mondale/Hart contest is in essence a continuation of the struggle for both the soul and the sinews of the party, which has been unresolved since 1968. The party then divided over a choice of candidates, with the establishment candidate being vice-president Humphrey – definitely the Mondale of his day – with Senator McCarthy representing the anti-establishment movement. Humphrey was chosen, but it was felt the choice derived more from the influence of the party big-wigs and the trade union leadership than it did from any rank and file acclaim.

The result was the McGovern Commission which changed the rules in a way which reduced the hold on the selection procedure by the trade union leadership and the big city machines led by men like Mayor Daly of Chicago. It led, in 1972, to the selection of Senator George McGovern, the anti-establishment candidate; and with what disastrous results.

Senator Hart cut his political teeth in the 1972 McGovern campaign. When he now attacks Mr Mondale's reliance on the support of special interests, he normally means the trade unions, though he forgets that it was trade union support which saved his own senatorial campaign in 1980 and secured his re-election with the slenderest of majorities. The Hart campaign has dealt more with mood and atmospherics than with hard, clear domestic and international policies. It invokes a born-again Kennedy mania, with the young, urban, professional classes – the "yuppies" of American political patois – as its cheerleaders; but also an isolationist tendency which should alarm Washington's allies. The Mondale pitch, in contrast, has emphasized the former vice-president's great political and international experience and thus his presumed wisdom and sense of global responsibility.

Last week, there was a television confrontation between the two, in which the Rev Jesse Jackson, the third candidate, played an effective role as mediator and critic of both their houses. At the time it looked as though Mr Mondale's decision to go for Mr Hart was a mistake, since it suggested that he felt that Senator Hart was more worth attacking than was President Reagan, and also threatened to diminish his stature as a former vice-president.

It now looks as though this decision to mire the Senator in detailed arguments, and expose the weaknesses and lack of serious policy back-up in his programme was all well-considered. The margin of Mr Mondale's victory exceeded that predicted in public opinion polls before the television programme.

Senator Hart is obviously not yet down for the count, but his policies, particularly the international ones, have not stood up well to scrutiny. That suggests that his nomination as candidate to fight Mr Reagan would be fraught with danger, in spite of the earlier polls which suggested that he would be more likely than Mr Mondale to beat the President.

The conventional wisdom has been that Mr Reagan would beat Mr Mondale. Perhaps it will now recognize that he is even more likely to beat Senator Hart. In this circumstance, some interest in the Democratic struggle might wane, or at least shift to the position of the Rev Jesse Jackson. His strong showing in New York suggests that he could acquire much influence at the Convention as a power broker. But he might be looking beyond that now. If it appears that the Democratic candidate, whoever he is, is likely to lose the election, Mr Jackson might be tempted to stand as a third candidate in order finally to consolidate his emerging position as the nationally recognized leader of America's blacks.

TOWARDS A FREER MARKET IN GAS

It is not often that ministers are asked to approve a commercial decision whose most striking effect will be to deduct from the country's balance of payments a sum of £1,500 million a year for the best part of a generation. Yet this is the situation now facing the Cabinet, which must decide shortly whether or not to allow the State-owned British Gas corporation to import some £20,000 million of new gas supplies from Norway in the 1990s. The corporation has reached provisional agreement with the Norwegians to buy the gas, but the deal is being held up because of misgivings at the Treasury about the wisdom of pressing through with it until its full economic and strategic implications have been thoroughly analyzed.

These misgivings are well-founded, though not simply or even primarily because of the size of the balance of trade figures involved. Nobody disputes that British Gas is going to need substantial new supplies of natural gas in the 1990s when the early North Sea discoveries start to decline. Britain has been importing between a quarter and a third of its gas needs from Norway since the beginning of the 1970s, and the supplies it is now contracting for will replace rather than supplement these imports. Nor do the financial terms which British Gas has negotiated with the Norwegians look particularly onerous, though they must clearly be carefully scrutinized. The price of 28p a therm is less than Continental utilities have recently agreed to pay for either Norwegian or Russian gas, which in part merely reflects the current surplus of gas available on the European market.

It is however some 15 to 20 per cent higher than British Gas has so far offered to pay for new supplies from undeveloped fields in the British sector of the North Sea, and it is here that the doubts about the sense of the Norwegian deal begin to surface. Oil companies have long argued with complete justification that British Gas's monopoly powers of purchase have impeded the development of new offshore gas fields in Britain. The Government made the first inroads into this monopoly with legislation two years ago, but its full impact has still to be felt. The Treasury is surely right to argue that the alternative of producing additional supplies of gas from British waters must be fully examined before the Norwegian deal is rubber-stamped. Other things being equal, it must be better to develop gas ourselves – which will provide jobs, contracts and millions of pounds of tax revenue for this country – rather than giving those benefits to an overseas country.

It may well be that the only way to guarantee the adequate development of British gas resources is to allow exports to the Continent for the first time. Both the Treasury and the oil industry, traditional adversaries though they are, share the belief that allowing exports is the only sure way of creating something akin to a free market in gas in this country, and hence the most efficient allocation of resources and investment in the industry. There are sensible strategic reasons for connecting Britain more directly to the European gas grid, which will increase Europe's flexibility of response to any cutoffs in supply. In addition, until the Government has settled what it intends to do about the possible reorganization and privatization of the gas industry, it can afford to postpone a decision.

The way we live now

From Mr Andrew Wilski

Sir, Bernard Levin (feature, March 27) does not seem to recognize the dangers resulting from a *secret* adherence to any groupings of those who are in the positions of influence.

It is wrong if a mason's decisions are dictated mainly by his loyalty to other masons. It is wrong if a Jew's decisions are dictated mainly by his loyalty to other Jews (however defined). The same applies to any other organizational, racial or religious groupings.

When the adherences of decision makers are known or admitted their possible bias becomes quickly obvious. When their adherences are secret or unadmitted their partiality may remain unoticed for a long time.

Yours sincerely,
ANDREW WILSKI,
36 Edith Road W14.
March 29.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Waiting for light on economic aims

From Professor Emeritus T. Wilson

Sir, The statement signed three years ago by 364 of my professional colleagues, and discussed again in your issue of March 30, had the merit of warning the Government that inflation would not be checked by current policies without a deepening of the recession.

Such a warning was appropriate in view of the advice being received from other quarters. For example, Professor Friedman had assured the Treasury and Civil Service Committee "that (a) only a modest reduction in output and employment will be a side effect of reducing inflation to single figures by 1982 and (b) the effect on investment and the potential for future growth will be highly favourable." (*Memoranda on Monetary Policy*, July, 1980).

Nevertheless the Cambridge statement was, in my view, much too one-sided to deserve support. It directed a strong complaint against the Government, but had nothing to say about the trade unions. Yet the TUC has been at least as much responsible for the tragic rise in unemployment as the Callaghan and Thatcher governments.

A short addition would have met the case, but it was missing. Moreover, the distinguished signatories who have recently contributed to your columns have made no attempt to repair this deficiency. This is the more surprising because some of them have shown elsewhere that they are very well aware of labour market problems.

The Cambridge statement rightly implied that a higher rate of growth of real expenditure was desirable. But was it attainable on a satisfactory scale without drastic changes in the labour market? Total monetary expenditure rose by about 65 per cent between the second quarter of 1979 and the third of 1983; or by about 60 per cent if indirect taxes and subsidies are excluded. Yet production stagnated and unemployment grew.

There is surely a strong presumption that any additional expenditure would have been largely, perhaps wholly, wasted in increased inflation. Even in 1983 the 8 per cent rise in expenditure would have been more than enough for a very strong non-inflationary recovery.

Professor Marcus Miller rightly observes in your columns (March 30) that "If spending plans are made in cash, lower inflation means more real spending". This point has been frequently made by ministers with regard to the public sector and it could be made to apply to the whole economy. The problem is not how to maintain or raise expenditure: it is how to keep down unit costs.

To say all this is neither to exonerate the Government from blame nor to include all trade union leaders in a blanket condemnation. There has, however, been a pitiful lack of responsible and constructive leadership from the TUC.

Last year, with three million unemployed, average earnings rose by about 3 per cent more than prices. No doubt some further recovery is possible without any serious acceleration of inflation, but one sufficiently strong and sustained to reduce unemployment to a more tolerable level would be a different matter.

The Cambridge statement contained the unequivocal assertion that "there are alternative policies." One hopes so. It would facilitate discussion, however, to have the nature of these policies revealed. Perhaps we can look forward to a new and more constructive statement – to be signed again by 364 economists.

Yours faithfully,
T. WILSON,
Adam Smith Building,
University of Glasgow,
Glasgow.
March 31.

Naval appreciation

From Captain J. F. R. Weir, RN

Sir, I have not seen the British Atlantic Committee's booklet, but I assume from the letters by Admiral Le Bailly (March 15) and Mr Hanning (March 21) that it postulates a non-nuclear confrontation.

Mr Hanning raises two separate issues, a Can Europe be reinforced by sea from America? and b, if so, should it be by convoy or independent sailings? He concludes that the prospect of reinforcement looks more incredible every year.

But to sustain a conventional war in Europe for any length of time will need massive supply from North America's industrial base. The European base is too small and too near the front.

If, as Mr Hanning suggests, this supply will be impossible, is not this the best reason for continuing the present strategy of nuclear deterrence whereby we ensure that war does not start?

The lessons of history from the First Dutch War to 1945 and the statistical studies of two world wars show that convoy is safer than independent sailing, regardless of the nature of the threat. Convoy across the Atlantic is thus the method of choice even in the face of new weapon technology and developments in surveillance. There would be losses, there always have been, but they would be far less than if ships were routed independently.

For my money, we could still fight convoys across the Atlantic. That we can and would adds credibility to the current strategy of flexible and graduated response.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
J. F. R. WEIR,
Parford,
Chagford, Devon.

Room at the top

From Mrs Jean Dickinson

Sir, Mr Clifford Longley's picture of an arm-twisting archbishop ("Hard-to-fill houses of the Lord", March 28), plugging top clerical posts with reluctant takers, dragging their protesting wives with them, is a spine-chilling prospect.

Has he never heard of negotiated roles within clerical marriages? If Mrs Runcie expressed "horror" at the palace of York as her possible future home, is it Mrs Runcie who is to be chastised and not the rigidity of a tradition that prescribes hundred-room palaces for some of its bishops?

"The call of duty" in this context seems a highly suspect phrase. Duty to what? Don't let's confuse taking up the Cross of Christ with being martyred by the rigid anachronisms of the C of E.

It might have been more profitable if Mr Longley had examined the reasons why gifted men are turning down "top posts". Could it be that the job descriptions need rewriting and the tied mansions resiting?

Yours faithfully,
JEAN DICKINSON,
St Michael's Vicarage,
St Albans, Hertfordshire.

Rights of advocacy

From Mr B. M. Elwick

Sir, I noted with interest your report (March 27) of the Law Society's campaign to secure rights of audience in the higher courts. You referred to the Lord Chancellor's powers under the Courts Act 1971 to grant advocacy rights in the crown court.

In fact that power has been exercised to allow solicitors right of audience at the crown court on appeals from a magistrates' court or on committal for sentence, as long as the same firm represented the defendant in the magistrates' court: see Practice Direction [1972] 1 AAL E. R. 608.

Perhaps the Law Society would like to explain why they are seeking wider powers of audience when they very rarely exercise the rights they already have.

Yours faithfully,
B. M. ELWICK,
The Justices' Clerk's Office,
The Guildhall, Nottingham.
March 27.

New exam level

From Dr David Ingram

Sir, The correspondence prompted by Lord Flowers's letter of March 8, in which he expressed a wish to see an expanded and enriched sixth-form curriculum, including the provision of an intermediate I-level examination, may be causing some misunderstanding.

As the universities see it, the purpose of a new examination level would not be to usurp the splendid position which some schools – like Mr Avery's (March 19) and Mr Ryan's (March 27) – have given to general studies. Rather it would be to provide a flexible alternative to the three specialist A levels on which so many offers of a university place are based.

In university entrance requirements it is quite rare for more than two A levels to be specified by name. In engineering, for example, it is most often mathematics and physics which are stated to be essential; in practice most applicants also have A level chemistry, because it is widely thought to be the most appropriate third subject.

A stereotype of this kind is difficult to modify when there is only one level of examination. Hence the idea of the I levels, which can be thought of as half A levels. Two of these would replace the third A level and, in the case of engineering students, could, for example, be chosen from chemistry, design, or a foreign language.

If we want to encourage potential engineers to cultivate a sense of design or become more proficient in a foreign language this is a practical way of doing it which has a chance of succeeding where other schemes have failed. Equally it gives arts students an opportunity to continue with mathematics or a science in the sixth form.

It is only natural that university admissions tutors should wish to be reassured that the new examination would be genuinely half an A level. This need not be difficult now that the examining boards have accepted the importance of defining the "core" which should be common to all syllabuses in each A level subject.

The I level syllabuses could then be related to an appropriate amount of this core, with half the teaching time of A level spread over two years. A combination of two such I levels with two A levels could provide the broadening that is so much needed and would be a realistic possibility for the average sixth-former. I fear Dr Rice-Evans's suggestion (March 29) of five A levels would only be a possibility for relatively few at the top.

The Standing Conference on University Entrance, which is made up of experienced admissions tutors from all the universities, has given its unequivocal support to the I level idea and is resolved to do everything possible to encourage individual selectors to make it work.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID INGRAM, Chairman,
Standing Conference on University Entrance,
29 Tavistock Square, WC1.

Freedom from bias

From Mr Fred Emery and Mr Richard Lindley

Sir, Seeking to nail everyone to his cross of bias, Woodrow Wyatt (feature, March 24) assumes we must all be as bad. So he demands that television current affairs journalists – ourselves singled out – carry a health warning.

We must reveal not only how we voted at the last election (assuming we did) but also how we intend to vote next time (assuming we know); the same self-assessment to be avowed by programme producers, researchers and editors.

How would such a wondrous scheme, timely indeed in 1984, be implemented? Should the confessions be collective? "The following programme is brought to you by three journalists who voted Conservative, three Labour, three SDP-Liberal, and two don't knows – four of whom are now having second thoughts. An update next week . . ."

Or should it be personal, a procession of show and tell? "Good evening, I voted this way last time; think I'll not vote at all next time. Now, the editor . . ." And so on, with rapid screen appearances of all those who made some journalistic contribution. Should it be on oath? Or would viewers take it on trust?

Would you get merit, or outrage, for appearing to go against your past voting record? What wrath might be visited on a Labour-voting presenter who dared report critically on Mr Kinnock; what denunciation for a declared Tory who dared take on Mrs Thatcher! Far from clarifying anything for viewers, such a barmy scheme would, we believe, inject an utterly irrelevant element of confusion and irritation into the serious purpose of independent reporting current affairs television aims for.

It is for the BBC to answer Sir Woodrow's charges against its programmes and recruitment policies – if the corporation considers his preposterous accusations worthy of a reply.

For ourselves, we resolutely reject the charge of political bias, left right or centre. It is as absurd as it is offensive to our professional integrity. We do not take lightly, nor do most journalists we know, the duty to put aside personal preferences and inclinations to ensure that in our reporting there be neither favour, nor fear.

It is inconvenient, but inherent in the business of television journalism, that we frequently deal with policies, debatable exercises of power, inefficiencies and even scandals in a way that is bound to be uncomfortable to those involved. And the viewers have a right to expect no less.

Nobody claims journalists can be neuters. But Sir Woodrow's fundamental mistake is to assume that they cannot but be partial. He wants the viewers to know where they are with us. So do we. As television presenters we support no political party, nor are we motivated by any political prejudice.

Yours etc,
FRED EMERY,
RICHARD LINDLEY,
BBC *Panorama*,
Lime Grove, W12.
March 29.

Buildings in the modern vernacular

From the President of the Royal Institute of British Architects

Sir, An article by Roderick Gradidge, "Back to firm foundations" last Friday (March 30) was, as a premise, on very shaky foundations.

Only some architects choose to design pastiche buildings, of previous historical periods, for some clients; others have pastiche forced upon them and their clients by local authority diktat; but others and their clients still believe there is a twentieth-century vernacular composed, as with previous vernaculars, of materials and techniques of their day.

Emile Coignet once said "enduring architecture is created when the imperatives of new structural techniques are mastered." It was so in the past, it will be in the future, and it has to be so now.

Some weeks ago in this newspaper Sir Roy Strong pleaded that the English should remember, when admiring their past heritage, that they also have an obligation to making some new heritage now. This must be right.

People like Roderick Gradidge, who can only look backward for solutions, represent a part of society that is sick and unconfident. The world we live in was made by people who reached forward and had their eyes on the future. Their goals were ahead, not behind.

That is why we fly in aeroplanes and live in an electronic age. That is why Stonehenge, the Parthenon, Santa Sophia, St Peter's and Crystal Palace were built. New ideas, new techniques, new materials; strange they all looked for their time, as the Centre Pompidou and the Sainsbury Centre do now. But they are all no more than steps in the inevitable unfolding of human achievement.

Tudor turrets and red bricks, Mr Gradidge, are unlikely to be what posterity expects as the architecture of the age of the space shuttle.

Turrets and red brick do not of themselves make good architecture. As the eighteenth century showed in an exemplary manner, architecture is an arrangement of scale, not just materials. An identical plain Georgian façade can be either stucco, brick or timber and still succeed.

Those who care about architecture must struggle to achieve similar results in today's materials, steel, glass, concrete and plastic, as well as reusing traditional materials to suit our new needs. This is where the skill lies, not in reproducing past successes.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL MANSER, President,
Royal Institute of British Architects,
66 Portland Place, W1.
April 1.

From Lord Esher

Sir, No need to defend the international style of the last fifty years from Mr Gradidge's contemptuous dismissal ("Spectrum", March 30): we can confidently leave it to serious historians to identify the masterpieces of that period. But he goes on to make two recommendations.

The first is that to "become unnoticed . . . is all that good architecture should do." (Shades of great men from Vanbrugh to Gilbert Scott!). The second is that we should copy our facades from those of the 1880s and the 1890s, "the greatest of all periods of architecture in England" – the age, I must point out, of the great hotels like the Metropole in Brighton, the Grand in Scarborough, the North British in Edinburgh and the Russell, the Hyde Park, the Langham and the St Pancras in London, all of which blasted their way into bland Georgian or early Victorian scenes.

Mr Gradidge cannot have it both ways if he seeks to be taken seriously as a guide to the architecture of this high-tech age.

Yours faithfully,
ESHER,
Christmas Common Tower,
Watlington,
Oxford.
April 1.

Falklands future

From Mr Julian Amery, MP for Brighton Pavilion (Conservative)

Sir, My friend and colleague, Mr George Walden (feature, March 31), is quite right to attribute a "sense of disproportion" to some elements of public opinion about the future of the Falkland Islands. This was evident in at least two of the so-called "heavy" Sunday papers at the weekend.

It is easy enough to question whether the principle of self-determination justifies an expenditure of £1m per inhabitant, but his analysis does not go to the heart of the matter.

Argentina has been defeated in war and is virtually bankrupt. In victory magnanimity? Of course, but Sir Winston Churchill never included the surrender of British interests in his concept of magnanimity. What he meant was to take Germany by the hand and lead her back into the community of nations.

There are two ways in which we could do this where Argentina is concerned. The first, and we are already doing this, is to help her with her problem of indebtedness even though she has not formally ended hostilities against us. The second is to find areas where we could work together.

The real justification of present plans to develop the Falklands lies in the growing importance of the South Atlantic and the opportunity to develop the resources of the Antarctic along with Chile, Argentina, New Zealand and Australia, all of whom have claims on that continent. Other countries will also be interested. The exploitation of wealth beneath the permafrost presents a challenge but scarcely more than putting a man on the moon.

The Falklands presents no parallel with Hongkong. Military factors apart, the weakness of our position in Hongkong derives from the fact that the New Territories are already on a lease which runs out in 1997.

Advocates of a lease-back solution for the Falklands could well wake up to find that our lease was running out just when the exploitation of the Antarctic was becoming profitable.

Yours faithfully,
JULIAN AMERY,
112 Eaton Square, SW1.
April 2.

Criminals on juries

From Mr D. Barnes

Sir, In response to Lord Harris of Greenwich's letter (29 March) I have never understood why it is assumed that criminals should have less interest (except when they themselves are in the dock) in the just outcome of a criminal trial.

Furthermore, surely someone with first-hand experience of the way police conduct investigations is in the best possible position to evaluate the accuracy or otherwise of evidence given by a police officer on oath.

Yours faithfully,
D. BARNES,
52 Avalon Road,
Ealing, W13.
March 30.

Voice of experience

From Mr P. J. Barsby

Sir, With reference to the photograph of Mr Bill Collins, a long-serving chorister, in *The Times* on Monday, March 26, sorry, but his 74 years' service is not a record.

Mr Sidney Oldham, of The Strand, Attenborough, Nottingham, has served continuously in the choir of St Mary's Church, Attenborough, since 1907, when he was 10 years old. He will be 87 on April 22 this year and will thus have completed 77 years' service, and is still going strong.

As a young man he sang tenor, but for many years now has sung bass. His father, Thomas Oldham, was in the choir for 50 years, from 1898 to 1948.

Yours faithfully,
P. J. BARSBY, (Choir Secretary,
St Mary's, Attenborough),
Rockery-Ash,
172 Attenborough Lane,
Attenborough, Nottingham.

Going solo

From Mrs Doreen Perry

Sir, Dr Ormerod (March 31) notes that during a day without public transport 42 per cent of cars still had only one occupant. Has the doctor ever tried pulling up at a bus queue and offering a lift? Half of the people waiting will ignore him totally; the rest will glare suspiciously as if they suspect him, at worst of being a potential murderer, at best a rapist.

As a middle-aged woman offering lifts I have received exactly this treatment. What do they imagine I will do to them? Perhaps they fear being talked to death!

Yours faithfully,
DOREEN PERRY,
137 Andrewes House,
Barbican, EC1.
April 1.

COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE
April 4: The Prime Minister and Mr Denis Thatcher, His Excellency the Luxembourg Ambassador and Madame Hastert, His Excellency the High Commissioner for Canada and Mrs Jamieson, the Right Hon Sir Patrick and Lady Nairne, Sir James and Lady Menter, Sir John and Lady Cuckney, Professor and Mrs Raymond Hoffenberg and Mr Christopher Hyde-Smith have left the Castle.

The Queen, Colonel-in-Chief, visited The Life Guards at Combermere Barracks, Windsor this morning and was received on arrival by the Colonel of the Regiment (Major-General Lord Michael Fitzalan Howard) and the Commanding Officer (Lieutenant-Colonel Timothy Earl).

Her Majesty later honoured the Commanding Officer with her presence at luncheon in the Officers' Mess.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh this evening attended a Reception at the Whitehall Banqueting House to mark the Sesquicentenary of the Royal Statistical Society, of which Her Majesty is Patron.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness were received on arrival by the Lord Mayor of Westminster (Councillor Mrs Phoebette Sitwell), the President of the Society (Professor P. Armitage).

Lady Susan Hussey, Sir William Heseltine and Major Hugh Lindsay were in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Admiral of the Honourable Company of Master Mariners, presided at a Court Luncheon on board HQS Wellington, where His Royal Highness was received by the Master of the Honourable Company (Captain G. W. S. Miskin).

Lieutenant-Commander Andrew Wynn, RN, was in attendance.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
April 4: The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips this morning visited Hugh Mackay plc, manufacturers of Durham Carpets, and was received on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the county of Durham (the Lord Barnard) and the Chairman of the Company (Mr J. Mackay).

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, Patron of the National Union of Townswomen's Guilds, subsequently attended the Dunelm Federation Luncheon at Durham Castle and was received by the Chairman of the Federation (Mrs N. Urwin).

Her Royal Highness, attended by Mrs Malcolm Innes, later left Teesside Airport in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

KENSINGTON PALACE
April 4: The Prince of Wales, attended by the Hon Edward Adeane and Lieutenant-Colonel David Bromhead, arrived at Gatwick Airport, London this morning from Botswana.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
April 4: The Duke and Duchess of Kent returned to RAF Northolt this evening following a visit to Northern Ireland.

Their Royal Highnesses, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, were attended by Sir Richard Buckley and Mrs Peter Wilmot-Sitwell.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
April 4: Princess Alexandra and the Hon Angus Ogilvy were present this evening at the Health Festival "Spring Celebration", in aid of Birthright (the National Fund for Childbirth Research), at the Savoy Hotel, London.

Lady Mary Fitzalan-Howard was in attendance.

A memorial service for Lord Byers will be held at noon today in Westminster Abbey.

A memorial service for Mr Edward Halliday will be held at 11.30 today at St James's, Piccadilly.

A service of thanksgiving and celebration for the life and ministry of Canon David Watson will be held in St Paul's Cathedral at 6pm today.

Jack Churchill, great grandson of Sir Winston Churchill, in the great man's seat in the reopened Cabinet War Rooms yesterday, flanked by his father, Mr Winston Churchill, MP, and Mrs Thatcher (Photograph: Brian Harris).

Thatcher recalls wartime humanity

The Prime Minister said yesterday that the British spirit of humanity had given the country the hope and strength to win the last war (Anthony Bevins writes).

Opening the Cabinet War Rooms, beneath government offices in Westminster, Mrs Margaret Thatcher quoted from Churchill's broadcast in June, 1941, to the American people, in which he said: "Whatever happens, we shall endure to the end".

The spartan quarters of the war rooms "speak across the decades to our hearts and to our memories," she said.

● Lord Duncan-Sandys and Lord Geoffrey-Lloyd, the only two surviving ministers who attended Cabinet meetings during the Second World War, were among the guests at the opening of the rooms to the public (the Press Association reports).

Lord Geoffrey-Lloyd, the minister in charge of petroleum and petroleum warfare from 1940 to 1945, said: "I have a very vivid picture of Winston sitting at the head of the table with General Ismay."

About 15 people, including ministers and chiefs of staff, would be seated round the Cabinet table below ground, often meeting while German bombs fell on London.

"Winston absolutely dominated the meetings and he was pretty rough with the chiefs of staff; very ruthless in argument."

Luncheons

Master Mariners' Company
The Duke of Edinburgh, Admiral of the Master Mariners' Company, presided at a court luncheon held on board HQS Wellington, Victoria Embankment, yesterday. The Master, Captain G.W.S. Miskin, and Lieutenant-General Sir Steuart Pringle, Commandant General Royal Marines, also spoke. Among those present were: [illegible]

Arbitration Luncheon
The Lord Mayor, who was accompanied by Alderman and Sheriff Richard Charvet, was a speaker at the Arbitration Luncheon given by the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and the London Court of International Arbitration at the Mansion House yesterday. Lord Justice Kerr presided and the other speakers were Mr Alfred Shindler, Chairman of the London Court of International Arbitration, and Mr W. Ray Turner, Chairman of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. Among others present were: [illegible]

Law Society
The President of the Law Society, Mr Christopher Hewetson, was host at a luncheon held at 60 Carey Street, yesterday. The guests were: [illegible]

Dinners

Speaker
The Speaker and Mrs Bernard Weatherill gave a dinner in Speaker's House yesterday. Those present were: [illegible] Ian Twinn, MP, and Mrs Twinn, MP, Mr James White, MP, and Mrs White, and the Rev Mother Mark, Headmistress of Virgo Fidelis Convent.

HM Government
Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host at a dinner held at Admiralty House yesterday in honour of the Minister of Home Affairs, Zimbabwe, Mr S. V. Mubako and the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Zimbabwe, Mr Nebart Madziwa.

Institution of Mining and Metallurgy
Mr Ian MacGregor, Chairman of the National Coal Board, and Mr R. S. Walker were the principal guest speakers at the annual dinner of the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy held at Imperial College of Science and Technology, yesterday. Mr K. B. Smale-Adams, president, was in the chair. The guests included:
The Ambassador of Thailand and Mom Wannamethee, the High Commissioner for Australia and Mrs Parsons, the High Commissioner for Zimbabwe and Mrs Murerwa, Sir Alistair and Lady Frame, and representatives of the minerals industry, universities, research bodies, and engineering institutions.

Arab-British Chamber of Commerce
The Arab-British Chamber of Commerce gave a dinner at the Hotel Intercontinental yesterday after its annual general meeting. The guests were received by Sir Richard Beaumont, chairman, and Mr Abdul Karim Al-Mudaris, secretary-general and chief executive of the chamber. Dr Manaa Said Al-Otaiba, Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources of the United Arab Emirates, was the guest of honour and principal speaker. Among other guests were ambassadors of Arab countries, senior officials of HM Government, Members of Parliament and directors of the chamber.

Framework Knitters' Company
At a court meeting held at Grocers' Hall yesterday, Mr Rolf Noskwith was installed as Master of the Framework Knitters' Company, Mr Howard Ellis as Upper Warden, and Mr Peter Ward as Under Warden. The Master presided at a dinner held later. The other speakers were Professor Randolph Quirk, Vice-Chancellor of London University, Professor F. H. Hinsley, Master of St John's College, Cambridge, and Mr A. M. Chapman.

Lady Cubitt
The Lord-Lieutenant of Surrey and Lady Hamilton of Dalzell were present last night at a dinner at County Hall, Kingston upon Thames, given by Sir Hugh and Lady Cubitt after the installation of Sir Richard Meyjes as High Sheriff of Surrey. The guests included the Bishops of Guildford and Dorking; the Chairman of the Surrey County Council and judges of the South-east circuit.

Bowyers Company
The Bowyers' Company held a livery dinner at the Honourable Artillery Company, Armoury House, yesterday when the Master, Mr A. Wood, was in the chair. Mr N. Downie and Mr Michael Maclagen, Richmond Herald of Arms, were the other speakers

Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
The president, Mr A. J. Hardcastle, and members of the Council of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales gave a dinner last night in Chartered Accountants' Hall. Among the guests were:
Mr Peter Rees, QC, MP, Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Mr Barney Hayhoe, MP, Mr Ian Stewart, MP, Mr Alex Fletcher, MP, the Hon Peter Brooke, MP, Mr John Wakeham, MP, and Mr Robert Sheldon, MP.

Tennis and Rackets Association
The Speaker of the House of Commons, Mr Bernard Weatherill, was guest of honour at the annual dinner of the Tennis and Rackets Association held on Tuesday in the Tennis Court at Queen's Club. Lord Aberdare, president, Mr David Norman, chairman, and 230 members and guests attended. Mr Clifford Chetwood, chairman and chief executive of George Wimpey, spoke on behalf of the guests and Mr Peter Dawes for the professionals.

Receptions

HM Government
Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host at a reception given at 1 Carlton Gardens yesterday in honour of the delegates to the first conference of the Anglo-Irish Encounter Organization.

Peace Through Nato
Sir Peter Blaker, MP, and Mr John Cartwright, MP, were hosts at a reception given by Peace Through Nato at the House of Commons last night to commemorate the thirty-fifth anniversary of the signing of the North Atlantic Treaty. The guests were received by Mr Alan Lee Williams, Chairman of Peace Through Nato.

OBITUARY

PROFESSOR E. J. DOBSON

Studies in English philology

Professor Eric John Dobson, who died on March 30 at the age of 70, was Professor of English Language at Oxford from 1964 to 1980, and an outstanding scholar of the history of English.

Dobson was born on August 16, 1913, at Rosehill, New South Wales. He was educated at the North Sydney High School and the University of Sydney. A Wentworth Travelling Fellowship brought him, in 1935, to Merton College, Oxford, where he took a First in English Language and Literature in 1937 and was elected to a Harmsworth Senior Scholarship in 1938.

He became Lecturer in English in the University of Reading in 1940, and remained there until 1947, apart from war service in the Naval Intelligence Division from 1942 to 1945. In 1947 he moved to Oxford as joint lecturer in English Language for St Edmund Hall and Jesus College. He later became Reader in English Language and a professorial fellow of Jesus in 1954, was given the title of Professor in 1961, and in 1964 was appointed Professor of English Language.

Dobson will be remembered at Oxford as one of the most valuable and influential members of the English faculty since the war. He returned to teaching at a time when colleges were swollen with large numbers of ex-servicemen and short of tutors; and for several years he worked excessively long hours with great conscientiousness and devotion.

He undertook for his doctoral dissertation a new survey of the evidence for the pronunciation of English in the 16th and 17th centuries, principally in the writings of contemporary grammarians. This was the foundation of his great work, *English Pronunciation 1500-1700*, published by the Clarendon Press in 1957. It is a massive study, combining great learning and thoroughness with a sure, independent judgment of the value of evidence and an impressive power of lucid exposition.

In detail some of its views have, of course, been challenged; but it is without question the most distinguished book on the history of English sounds that has appeared since Henry Sweet's famous treatise of 1888. As an offshoot from this major book Dobson published *The Phonetic Writings of Robert Robinson* (1957).

In 1962 his published work took a new direction with an important paper printed in the collection of essays presented to J. R. R. Tolkien on his 70th birthday. It was a substantial study of the affiliations of the manuscripts of *Ancrene Wisse*, the most significant prose text in early Middle English, on which Tolkien had done his most distinguished academic work. From that time onwards *Ancrene Wisse* and the related devotional treatises of the "Katherine group" came to be Dobson's main concern.

His principal publications in this field were an edition of the Cotton Cleopatra manuscript of *Ancrene Wisse* (Early English Text Society, 1972), a book on the origins of the treatise (1976) which is an original and penetrating piece of literary and historical investigation, and an edition in collaboration with Professor Simonne d'Ardenne of Liège (another old pupil of Tolkien) of *Seinte Katerine* (1981).

He also published, with Professor F. Harrison, *Medieval English Songs* (1979).

LORD HENDERSON

Lord Henderson, PC, who died yesterday at the age of 92, was a well-known Labour peer who was the second of the three sons of Arthur Henderson, one of the chief architects of the Labour Party and a former Foreign Secretary.

He had been MP for Enfield from 1923-24 and again from 1929-31 and after being made a Peer in 1945, served at the Foreign Office as a Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State under Ernest Bevin from 1948 to 1951. He was chairman of the Alliance Building Society from 1966-72.

Henderson lacked some of the rugged qualities that made his father such a formidable figure and party manager but throughout his life he worked diligently for his party's cause. From prolonged study he developed a wide knowledge of international affairs, an interest which he had inherited from his father.

William Watson Henderson was born on August 8, 1891 at Newcastle-on-Tyne where his father – the future Foreign Secretary – was then working at his trade as an iron-moulder. The family later moved to Darlington and Henderson was educated at the Queen Elizabeth Grammar School there.

In 1903 Henderson's father was elected Labour MP for Barnard Castle and brough his family to London. From his earliest years the younger Henderson was immersed in Labour politics, either as a journalist or as a party official. He was editorial secretary of the *Daily Citizen* from 1912 to 1914.

After the 1914-18 War – during which he served in the Army – Henderson was from 1919-1921 Parliamentary Correspondent of the Labour Party Press Department and also Lobby Correspondent of the *Daily Herald*.

In 1921 went to Labour Party headquarters as secretary of the party's Press and Publicity Department, a post which he occupied for nearly a quarter of a century.

In 1923 he was elected Labour MP for Enfield. He lost the seat in the following year but regained it in 1929 and held it until the Labour debacle of 1931. In the Parliament of 1929-31 he was Parliamentary Private Secretary to Mr Wedgwood Benn who was then Secretary of State for India.

When the Second World War came Henderson served from 1940 to 1942 as personal assistant to Arthur Greenwood, who was Minister without Portfolio in the Coalition Government and a member of the War Cabinet.

After the war Henderson was given a peerage as Baron Henderson, of Westgate, the city and county of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, thus helping to strengthen Labour's representation in the House of Lords. He was a Lord-in-Waiting from 1945-48. From 1945-1947 he was also an Additional Member of the Air Council.

In 1948 he was appointed a Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Foreign Office where he worked with and under Ernest Bevin for three years. At Bonn in 1949 he conveyed to Chancellor Adenauer the Prime Minister's message of good wishes on the occasion of the inauguration of the first Government of the Federal Republic.

During the years when the Labour Party was in Opposition Henderson took part in a great many foreign affairs debates in the House of Lords – debates which he frequently opened, and was a British Representative at the Assembly of the Council of Europe in 1954 and 1956. From 1952 to 1955 he represented the Labour peers on the Labour Party's Parliamentary Committee.

THE HON MAXWELL STAMP

The Hon Maxwell Stamp, who died on March 31 at the age of 68, had a distinguished career in applied economics. As adviser and consultant his services were called for by a wide circle of institutions, national and international and both public and private.

Stamp was nurtured in a family atmosphere of cultured, meticulous inquiry in economic and social problems. He was the third son of a formidable father, Josiah Stamp, later, first Baron Stamp, an eminent economist and statistician. Josiah Stamp's little book *Capitalism and the Christian ethic* provides a fair example of the kind of controversial intellectual grist on which the mill of the Stamp entourage was set to work.

Max Stamp was a product of full-length Cambridge education: The Leys School, followed by Clare College. He read for the Bar, and was called in 1939 as a member of the Inner Temple. Any immediate plans for a legal career were interrupted by the war, when he served in the Intelligence Corps, climbing rapidly from Second Lieutenant to Lieutenant-Colonel.

At Cambridge, he had come under the influence of Keynes, and had developed a keen investigative interest in international monetary problems. It was in that context, that he became an adviser at the Bank of England in 1950, and was appointed an alternate executive director for the United Kingdom at the International Monetary Fund in Washington. There, he was to become Director of the European Department, and helped to translate into reality the vision of world monetary reform, conveyed to him at Cambridge by Keynes the founding father on the IMF. It was a vision based on a deep appreciation of the virtues of honest, stable money.

In an article which he contributed in 1947 to *Lloyds Bank Review* entitled, "Germany Without Incentive", he had described the monetary chaos in immediate postwar Germany, and pleaded a powerful case for the monetary reform which was to pave the road for Germany's economic miracle.

Stamp became in 1958 director of the merchant bank, Hill Samuel, and later founded, and was chairman of Maxwell Stamp Associates, a centre of economic research and fount of advice to a wide circle of clients, including the Goverment of Zambia.

Demand for his services was sustained at a high, sometimes, excessive level. The list of his many commitments includes the International Chamber of Commerce and the National Institute of Economic and Social Research. One appointment which gave him particular enjoyment, was his chairmanship of the 1967 Home Office committee on the London taxi cab trade.

With all this, went a passionate love of music, and sponsorship of musicians. He was chairman of the Rehearsal Orchestra and Governor of the British Institute for Recorded Sound. He was also a governor of LSE and from 1968-71 a director of the Civil Aviation Athority.

He leaves a widow, a son, and two daughters.

Latest wills

Dr Robert Douglas Reid, of Wells, Somerset, who left estate valued at £285,785 net. After various bequests he left the residue to the Pershore and Nashdom Trust, Burnham, Buckinghamshire, for establishing a religious community for men within five miles of Glastonbury Abbey.

Blaker, Annie Lydia, of Petworth, left £541,393 net. After bequests totalling £3,000 she left the residue equally between the Aldingbourne County Centre, of Norton, Chichester, The King Edward VIII Hospital, Midhurst, and the RNLI.

Whitehead, Mrs Isabel, of Rolvenden, Kent, left £1,061,779 net.

Thornton, Mrs May, of Bournemouth, left £252,330 net. After bequests she left the residue equally between the United Nations Children's Fund, the Save the Children Fund and the Catholic Fund for Overseas Development.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):

Clark, Mr Archie, of Newton Abbot £253,729

Vickers, Mr George Anthony, of Eccleshall £469,743

Birthdays today

Vice-Admiral Sir Dudley Anderson, 57; Miss Bette Davis, 76; Miss Verona Elder, 30; Mr J. Gilbert, MP, 57; Mr Gontran Goulden, 72; Mr Arthur Hailey, 64; Mr Nigel Hawthorne, 55; Sir Douglas Henley, 65; Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Irving, 74; the Hon Dame Olivia Mulholland, 82; Dr Cecil Northcott, 82; Mr Gregory Peck, 68; Miss Jennifer Penney, 38; Mr W. R. Hornby Steer, 85; Mr Herbert von Karajan, 76; Vice-Admiral Sir Dymock Watson, 80.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:

The Hon Richard Vane, and Mr Graham Jackson, to be members of the Lake District special planning board.

Mr R. K. Robertson, deputy managing director of Marconi Communications Systems, to be managing director in succession to Mr Paul Robinson, who takes up a new appointment as managing director, Marconi Command and Control Systems.

Memorial service

Mr E. W. Percival
A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr Edgar Percival was held at St Michael's, Cornhill, yesterday. The Rev John Scott officiated. Mr Martin Barraclough and Mr David Proudlove read the lessons and Mr Michael Madigan gave an address. Among those present were:
Mr and Mrs Robert Percival (brother and sister-in-law), Mrs Susan Marsh, Mrs Pamela Durham; The Master and Clerk of the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators, Mr Michael Freeman, Mr Handel Davies (representing the President of the Royal Aeronautical Society) with Mr Ian Scott-Hill (vice-president); Air Vice-Marshal Cyril Kay, Group Captain Peter Hackett (Royal Australian Air Force), Flight Lieutenant B W King and Flight Lieutenant M Bolton (No 60 Squadron, Wildenrath, Germany), Flight Lieutenant A P Jeremy and Mr R M Goodrum (RAF Museum Hendon), Mrs Michael Madigan, Mr and Mrs J B McIntyre, Mr F Slacy, Mr and Mrs Thomas King, Mr Alan Branson, Mr J McMahon, Mr Neil Jensen, Mr D W J McDermott, Mr William Simpson, Miss Leila Davies, and Mr N Cooper

Consulate of Guinea

A book of condolence on the death of President Sékou Touré will be open at the Consulate of Guinea, 86 Hatton Garden, London, today, from 11 am until 3 pm.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A. M. Singleton and Lady Amelia Paget
The engagement is announced between Andrew, second son of Sir Edward and Lady Singleton, of 57 Victoria Road, London, W8, and Amelia, youngest daughter of the Marquess and Marchioness of Anglesey, of Plas Newydd, Isle of Anglesey, North Wales.

Mr C. M. Burgess and Miss A. R. Dorey
The engagement is announced between Christopher Michael, elder son of Mr and Mrs Raymond Burgess, of Clydesdale, Sparkhill, Birmingham, and Angela Ruth, second daughter of Mr and Mrs Roger Dorey, of North Bersted, Bognor Regis.

Mr S. D. C. de Roeper and Miss C-C. de M. May
The engagement is announced between Simon, elder son of Mrs D. G. Martin and the late Major P. J. de Roeper, MC, and stepson of Lieutenant-Colonel D. G. Martin, OBE, of Bratton, Wiltshire, and Camilla-Caroline, only daughter of Colonel and Mrs R. K. May, of Warwick Bridge, Cumbria.

Mr D. Djerassi and Miss I. Maxwell
The engagement is announced between Dale, son of Professor Carl Djerassi, of Woodside, California, and Mrs Norma Lundholm Djerassi, of Portola Valley, California, and Isabel, daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Maxwell, of Oxford.

Dr D. L. Economides and Dr D. A. Christie
The engagement is announced between Demetrios, only son of Dr and Mrs V. Economides, of Muswell Hill, London, and Daphne, twin daughter of Dr and Mrs S. P. Christie, of 27 Cavendish Close, London, NW8.

Mr G. J. Gower and Miss N. J. E. Fox
The engagement is announced between Graham, elder son of Mr and Mrs J. W. Gower, of Martlesham, Woodbridge, Suffolk, and Nikola, only daughter of Mr and Mrs N. E. Fox, of Great Bealings, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

Mr R. S. P. Hans and Miss H. C. Woodcock
The engagement is announced between Richard, only son of Mr and Mrs S. F. Hans, of Ware, Hertfordshire, and Helen, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs P. Woodcock, of Bengeo, Hertford.

Major R. A. Hitchcock and Mrs S. C. Ferguson
The engagement is announced between Robin Anthony Hitchcock, of Ali Zaid Al Quraishi and Brothers, PO Box 20833, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, and Sandra Carole Ferguson, of the Bell Inn, St James Street, Castle Heddingham, Essex.

Mr A. J. Mosley and Miss N. J. Sim
The engagement is announced between John, eldest son of Mr and Mrs A. D. A. G. (Bill) Mosley, of Hongkong, and Dorset, and Nicola, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs I. G. T. Sim, of Forest Row, Sussex.

Mr H. St P. Parry and Miss S. Cullinane
The engagement is announced between Hadyn St Pierre, younger son of the late Lieutenant-Colonel R. G. R. Parry, MC, and Mrs J. J. Batten, of Bow Hill, Uplands Road, Farnham, Surrey, and Sheila, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Cullinane, of Highlever Road, North Kensington, London.

Marriage

Mr W. H. Thomson and Miss A. E. Cridland
The marriage took place on April 4th at St Margaret's Church, Bagendon, near Cirencester, of Mr William Hutt Thomson and Miss Alison Evelyn Cridland. The Rev Anthony Hulbert officiated.

Science report

Tissue typing aid to panda fertility

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Zoologists are more than usually confident that a giant panda will be born in captivity from a mating two weeks ago. Their optimism is based on the first elaborate biochemical study done into the animals' genetic characteristics.

The research by scientists in Britain and the United States concerned four pandas: Chia-Chia, the male animal at London Zoo, the female Ling-Ling and the male Hsing-Hsing, both of the Washington Zoo, and a cub which was born last year but did not survive.

The story starts in 1973 when Ling-Ling first showed signs of sexual receptivity, and has done so once year ever since.

Attempts to interest Hsing-Hsing in a partnership failed.

With zoological discretion, the scientists described his sexual encounters with Ling-Ling as unsuccessful because of an orientation problem. Four years ago artificial insemination was tried from Hsing-Hsing.

The next year Chia-Chia was flown to Washington for a mating encounter, but that pairing resulted in an aggressive and extended physical attack by the panda from London on Ling-Ling, which did not include copulation. So the next year artificial insemination was tried again with spermatoza from both the male animals, but again without success.

In March last year, when the female displayed symptoms of sexual receptivity again, the two Washington pandas were successfully mated. At the same time sperm was collected from Chia-Chia at London Zoo for artificial insemination into Ling-Ling. A male cub was born in July but it did not survive.

Unfortunately, that left the scientists without knowing which of the two males was the father, and since the virility of Hsing-Hsing was already under question that created a dilemma in trying to plan future pregnancies.

They therefore formed a team to determine the father of the male cub. It was done from analysis of blood samples and tissue cultures, grown in the laborarory from skin biopsies taken from all four pandas.

As there is nothing known of the variation in the genetic make-up within the panda species, the task was to detect in the samples biological markers that were specific to each of the three adult pandas. If a combination of those could then be detected in the tissue cultures from the cub, parentage might be isolated.

There were two main strands to the investigation. One was to identify particular proteins on the surface of cells for which a specific gene in the animals' DNA was responsible. The other was to analyse the mixture of the principal genetic characteristics of each animal.

The table below is one of the results from such an analysis. The capital letters are abbreviations for main groupings of genetic characteristics.

Proteins	Ling-Ling	Cub	Hsing-Hsing	Chai-Chai
p90	A	AB	AB	A
p68	AB	B	B	B
p32	AB	AB	B	B
p73	B	AB	AB	B
p112	AB	AB	A	AB
p54	A	A	A	AB

That shows that the Washington panda, Hsing-Hsing was the father of the cub.

As well as scientists at London and Washington zoos, genetic experts from the US National Institute of Health and the US National Cancer Institute were involved.

Garden festival variety

Visitors to the International Garden Festival on the banks of the Mersey in Liverpool, which opens on May 2, will be able to gain inspiration from 20 acres of international gardens.

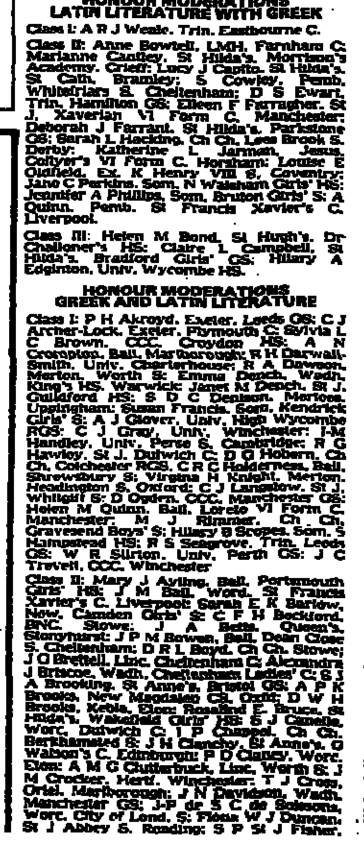
The British section, where more than 300 different plants will be growing, comprises several gardens or "garden rooms", each from a separate period of landscape history.

The courtyard garden has an intimate atmosphere, with scented climbers such as honeysuckles, jasmins, and roses, and topiary.

A formal pool in the sunken garden is surrounded by dramatic foliage, with varied leaf shapes mirrored in the water. The central feature in the British section is a gazebo reminiscent of Gertrude Jekyll's style.

OXFORD CLASS LISTS

The following class lists have been issued at Oxford University:



HONOUR MODERATIONS
LATIN LITERATURE WITH GREEK

Class I: A R J Weale, Trin, Eastbourne C.

Class II: Anne Bowtell, LMH, Farnham C; Marianne Cantley, St Hilda's, Morrison's Academy, Crieff; Lucy J Capito, St Hilda's, St Cath, Bramley; S Cowley, Pemb, Whitefriars S, Cheltenham; D S Ewart, Trin, Hamilton GS; Eileen F Farragher, St J, Xaverian VI Form C, Manchester; Deborah J Farrant, St Hilda's, Parkstone GS; Sarah L Hacking, Ch Ch, Lees Brook S, Derby; Katherine L Jarman, Jesus, Collyer's VI Form C, Horsham; Louise E Oldfield, Ex, K Henry VIII S, Coventry; Jane C Perkins, Som, N Walsham Girls' HS; Jennifer A Phillips, Som, Bruton Girls' S; A Quinn, Pemb, St Francis Xavier's C, Liverpool.

Class III: Helen M Bond, St Hugh's, Dr Challoner's HS; Claire L Campbell, St Hilda's, Bradford Girls' GS; Hilary A Edginton, Univ, Wycombe HS.

HONOUR MODERATIONS
GREEK AND LATIN LITERATURE

Class I: P H Akroyd, Exeter, Leeds GS; C J Archer-Lock, Exeter, Plymouth C; Sylvia L C Brown, CCC, Croydon HS; A N Crompton, Ball, Marlborough; R H Darwall-Smith, Univ, Charterhouse; R A Dawson, Merton, Worth S; Emma Dench, Wadh, King's HS, Warwick; Janet M Dench, St J, Guildford HS; S D C Denison, Merton, Uppingham; Susan Francis, Som, Kendrick Girls' S; A J Glover, Univ, High Wycombe RGS; C J Gray, Univ, Winchester; J-M Handley, Univ, Perse S, Cambridge; R G Hawley, St J, Dulwich C; D G Hobern, Ch Ch, Colchester RGS; C R C Holderness, Ball, Shrewsbury S; Virgina H Knight, Merton, Headington S, Oxford; C J Langslow, St J, Whitgift S; D Ogden, CCC, Manchester GS; Helen M Quinn, Ball, Loreto VI Form C, Manchester; M J Rimmer, Ch Ch, Gravesend Boys' S; Hilary B Scopes, Som, S Hampstead HS; R S Seagrove, Trin, Leeds GS; W R Slirton, Univ, Perth GS; J C Trevell, CCC, Winchester

Class II: Mary J Ayling, Ball, Portsmouth Girls' HS; J M Ball, Worc, St Francis Xavier's C, Liverpool; Sarah E K Barlow, New, Camden Girls' S; C F H Beckford, BNC, Stowe; J A Betts, Queen's, Stonyhurst; J P M Bowen, Ball, Dean Close S, Cheltenham; D R L Boyd, Ch Ch, Stowe; J O Brettell, Linc, Cheltenham C; Alexandra J Briscoe, Wadh, Cheltenham Ladies' C; S J A Brooking, St Anne's, Bristol GS; A P K Brooks, New, Magdalen CS, Oxfd; D W H Brooks, Keble, Eton; Rosalind E Bruce, St Hilda's, Wakefield Girls' HS; S J Canelle, Worc, Dulwich C; I P Chappel, Ch Ch, Berkhamsted S; J H Clanchy, St Anne's, G Watson's C, Edinburgh; P D Clarey, Worc, Eton; A M G Clutterbuck, Linc, Worth S; J M Crocker, Hertf, Winchester; T J Cross, Oriel, Marlborough; J N Davidson, Wadh, Manchester GS; J-P de S C de Soissons, Worc, City of Lond, S; Fiona W J Duncan, St J, Abbey S, Reading; S P St J Fisher,





Oriel, K Edward VI Camp Hill Boys's S, Birmingham; Emily U Fitzherbert, Ball, Westminster; M A Fox, Wadh, King's CS, Wimbledon; Sarah A Funnell, St Anne's, Helenswood S, Hastings; M J M Gale, Merton, Sedbergh; J M P Gaunt, Merton, Harrow; N J Gibson, Trin, Brentwood S; W G Hamilton, New, Liverpool C; D P A Hagge, CCC, Haywards Heath VI Form C; P A Hibbert, CCC, Stockport GS.

Class II (continued): Emma E Hibbs, St Hilda's, Redland HS, Bristol; Lucinda J Hicks, Jesus, Croydon HS; J P Hinchliffe, Pemb, Magdalen CS, Oxford; W P Hobson, LMH, Eton; B G Hubble, Jesus, K Edward VI S, Southampton; C R James, Magd, Stowe; A P Jennings, Oriel, Merchant Taylors' S; E G Johnson, Ch Ch, Lancing; A J W Laird, Magd, Bedford S; T A C Leach, Wadh, Lancaster RGS; C J Lord, Magd, Chigwell S; A J McCully, Worc, Birkenhead S; G J McGrath, BNC, St Brendan's VI Form C, Bristol; Sarah J McMahon, Queen's, Sherborne Girls' S; P W Murphy, CCC, Monmouth S; S B Pearson, Trin, Uppingham; G D A Peel, Ch Ch, Harrow; Noele P M Pope, St Hugh's, S Hampstead Girls' HS; Carolyn S Price, St Hugh's, Sutton HS; Susan E Purver, Som, Kendrick Girls' GS, Reading; M J Quinn, Hertf, Gateway VI Form C, Leicester; A J C Reid, BNC, Tonbridge S; H T Revill, Keble, Wm Hulme's GS, Manchester; Lucy J Reynolds, Univ, Oxford Girls' HS; J C Rodgers, LMH, Colchester RGS; Teresa J Rolfe, St Hilda's, Shaftesbury HS; Vanessa E M Rumboll, LMH, Haileybury; J C N Ruchbrooke, Ball, Harrow; S G Schaw-Miller, Exeter, Fettes C; M T Simpson, Oriel, King's S, Canterbury; S D Stern, Wadh, Ecole Decroly L'Ermitage, Brussels; C M B Sutton, Queen's, Fettes C; M J Taylor, Ball, Bristol GS; M P Taylor, New, Lancing; M N C Thomas, St Anne's, Winchester; Karen E Thorp, St Hugh's, Loreto VI Form C, Manchester; S H Tombs, Pemb, K Edward VI S, Southampton; Helen M Tomley, Trin, Loreto VI Form C, Manchester; Sarah J Vaughan, St Anne's, Malvern Girls' C; Mrs Caroline S Webster, Wadh, Haberdashers' Aske's Girls' S, Elstree; J H Whyte, CCC, S Hampstead HS; Elizabeth G Wilkinson, Trin, Abbey S, Reading; S M G Williams, Worc, Charterhouse; D J T Wilson, Worc, R Belfast Academical Instn; T M Witherow, Wadh, Bristol GS; G S P Wright, Wadh, High Wycombe RGS; D P Wyatt, New, Southend Boys' HS; N M Young, CCC, Dundee HS.

Class III: Rosalind Bailey, Jesus, Henrietta Barnett S, Hampstead; M W Beam, Oriel, Ampleforth; W J Bowen, BNC, Oakham S; S P Crutchley, Keble, Hyde VI Form C, Cheshire; Jill V Dalton, LMH, Wycombe HS; D L Evans, Ball, Wimbledon C; H Fraser, Exeter, Hampton S; P A Gray, Exeter, Newcastle-upon-Tyne RGS; T J Greenslade, St J, Merchant Taylors' S; Khamini Khanduri, St Anne's, Oxfd HS; Anastasia Kuberman, Ch Ch, Camden Girls' S; Flora M McDonnell, Ex, Gresham's Holt S; S O Morris, Queen's, Manchester GS; J A Perry, Queen's, K Henry VIII S, Coventry; J G Stamp, Ball, St Paul's S; Melanie M Swinburne, Pemb, Uppingham; Helen J Turner, Magd, N Lond Collegiate S.

هكذا من الأصل

Ashridge Management College

One of Britain's leading centres for management and training, Ashridge Management College this year celebrates its twenty-fifth anniversary. This Special Report looks at its beginnings, development and approach



Philip Sadler: 'We do not pick up the latest fad and run with it. That would be dangerous'

Pictures by Suresh Karadia

Ashridge Management College, this year celebrating its first quarter century, has more than one touch of the unexpected. It is a striking combination of rural setting and ancient buildings. Ashridge House, which goes back 700 years to beginnings as a monastery, sits amid 4,000 mostly woodland acres, much of it now National Trust land, in the eastern arm of the Chilterns in west Hertfordshire.

All this conspires at Ashridge to exude the cloistered calm of academia, yet of all management colleges Ashridge's reputation is for securing hard-nosed practical results. Courses tend to be short and sharp.

One of its successes has been in setting up courses closely tailored to the specific needs of individual companies and in helping companies develop their management philosophy and strategies. This has been a big factor in Ashridge's growth. Some 35 companies are currently involved in individually tailored packages.

With its plethora of formal gardens the place seems tailor-made for reflection but the working atmosphere is constantly vigorous. Some days younger managers test their leadership qualities by going on foot, bicycle or sometimes canoe while taking part in endeavour training.

At the same time there is an almost village friendliness about the place where all the jobs, including unusually the catering, are carried out by the Ashridge staff of 200. There are even two stonemasons on the payroll as well as a host of estate workers (there are still 230 acres of land to be maintained around the college).

Ashridge has done its share of pioneering, with some fresh approaches only recently introduced as with employee relations, yet downwards from Philip Sadler, the quietly firm principal, there is among the tutorial staff a healthy scepticism of fashionable management theories. The Sadler view is: "We do not pick up the latest fad or opinion and run with it. That would be dangerous."

Even during the worst effects of the recession, Ashridge has more than held its own financially, an achievement all the more striking because unlike many management schools it has no benefits from grants or trust monies.

Ashridge has not been immune to the problems which have affected all management colleges during the recession.

In 1979, when the use of the college was surging ahead in a good national economic situation, the number of student weeks was 6,373. But when the recession bit in the following year student weeks dropped to 5,161, declining further in 1981 and bottoming in 1982 at 4,723. There was a sharp recovery last year to 5,303 student weeks, with the prospect this year of reaching 5,700.

In each of the difficult years Ashridge has still turned in a financial surplus in excess of £200,000. At the same time annual investment levels have been maintained at around £750,000, there being spending on new facilities – currently a sports complex including squash courts and a swimming pool – as well on the maintenance of the older buildings.

All the bedrooms are in modern buildings, aimed at providing facilities to the standard of good hotel, and half the classrooms and other tutorial facilities are in new buildings.

In the 20 years Mr Sadler has been at Ashridge the number of bedrooms has climbed from 60 to 170 and academic staff from half a dozen to the present 40.

Mr Sadler, who had previousy been at the National Economic Development Office and the Ministry of Defence after graduating from the London School of Economics in 1953 and having a short spell in advertising, went to Ashridge first in 1964 as its first director of research. He has been principal for 15 years.

This has given him a long perspective on the development of the Ashridge philosophy on management education. The college positions itself halfway between the academic and theoretical approach usually found in university-based business schools and the nuts and bolts approach of a management consultant.

Tutors are a mix as well, ranging from a PhD from Cambridge University to the ersthwile marketing director of a big travel company.

The Ashridge view is that management training development is a continuing process throughout a person's career, so pointing to relatively short courses of sufficient variety to fit every career stage.

Much store is set by research despite the lack of university-style resources. Leadership and organization have been focal points, with special studies of printing and construction. There is fresh work being done on management careers and how they develop. A new study is into what major problems are seen to be ahead for management in the next decade, the research being spread over a number of key companies.

Mr Sadler said: "Our reputation in industry is for being practical, relevant and consistent and that last quality is especially important. There is a big emphasis on quality control. We almost overdo it in checking people's responses to courses."

Mr Sadler foresees further growth for Ashridge without increasing the accommodation there. One possibility being explored is evening programmes appealing to smaller businesses and companies within about 40 minutes' travelling time of the college.

It would be within the Ashridge charter to set up a second college, preferably abroad. A former Commonwealth country would be one logical location or if an international centre became the choice a country like Switzerland would be a possibility.

Ashridge is already involved in setting up courses abroad. A senior management course is being planned in Hongkong next year in conjunction with some local organizations.

Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

Master classes for action men

Bill Bradick, deputy principal at Ashridge and director of studies for senior management courses, heads a special group of tutors running the new formula Master Classes, a three-year-old series of Action Learning Sets for chief executives and the three-week Senior Managers Programme, which has now been operating for groups of 20 since 1966.

The Master Classes, with the first due next month, are for groups of 12 directors who get together two days at a time on four different occasions during any one year. Three series of classes are so far planned for this year.

The thinking behind the new classes is that particularly experienced top mangers learn best through doing something that needs to be done anyway by tackling actual problems.

Mr Braddick said: "They are taken through the process of thinking about their company strategy, with input on how to think about managing companies in a strategic way. There is a lot of value in the sharing of experiences of the managers in the group. We want them to go back into their company and do something about changing the strategy there. It gives them the chance to re-think where there company is going and how it is getting there."

Specific problems are tackled in groups of four. Three tutors are involved.

A crucial element in the Action Learning Sets is the interaction between the chief executives making up each set. There is a maximum of six for each of these groups. They come together for a single day every three weeks during a six month period, one of the advantages being that this meets the problem of busy chief executives unable to leave a business for any length of time.

Mr Braddick said: "One factor is that somebody at chief executive level, although he might need a bit of up-dating on some issues, really is not in need of new knowledge. But being a chief executive is rather a lonely job: there is nobody at your level in the organization. You cannot share the feeling of running a business; to do that you need people who are doing the same sort of job."

The set subject is simply each chief executive's own business. Each brings along issues and problems. Mr Braddick said: "They can test out ideas and take it in turns to discuss the specific problems, learningfrom each other. What they value is the experience of people on their own level."

But the Ashridge tutors provide a framework, guiding and pressing challenges.

What has demonstrated the value of the groups is that when the Ashridge sessions have finished, some groups have continued to meet on a regular basis to continue the process of learning form each other's experience and ideas.

The chief executives comes from a wide variety of business backgrounds from managers of substantial subsidiaries of multinational companies to chief executives of medium-sized businesses. Among them have been chief executives of a London hotel, an agricultural business, a high technology engineering company, a consumer durables company and a medium-sized family business.

The Senior Managers Programme consists of six courses a year processing around 120 managers annually. The programme is for senior executives who contribute to the strategic development of their businesses. Its focus is the impact of environmental change, long term policy issues and the translation of strategy into action.

It can appeal to somebody running a medium sized business or a senior manager in charge of a department in a much larger busniness. It offers a developmental course particularly useful to those being raised to higher levels of management.

Mr Braddick said: "It is a fairly conventional programme except that a special philosophy underlies it. This is that management is about getting things done and not just thinking about. You have to make things happen.

Those on the course are asked to nominate a major issue facing their own company and elaborate how they are going to tackle the problem. "It gives a distinctive practical edge to the course," said Mr Braddick.

D.H.

Climbing the management tree

College courses now bring in £1m a year

F.. those on the lower rungs of the management ladder, Ashridge offers a number of courses. There are others aimed at developing special skills which also offer help to those further up the mangement tree.

This amalgam of courses, for which Dr Laurence Handy is director of studies, are the second largest generator of fee income at the college, accounting for rather more than £1m annually with in excess of 700 managers attending the courses each year.

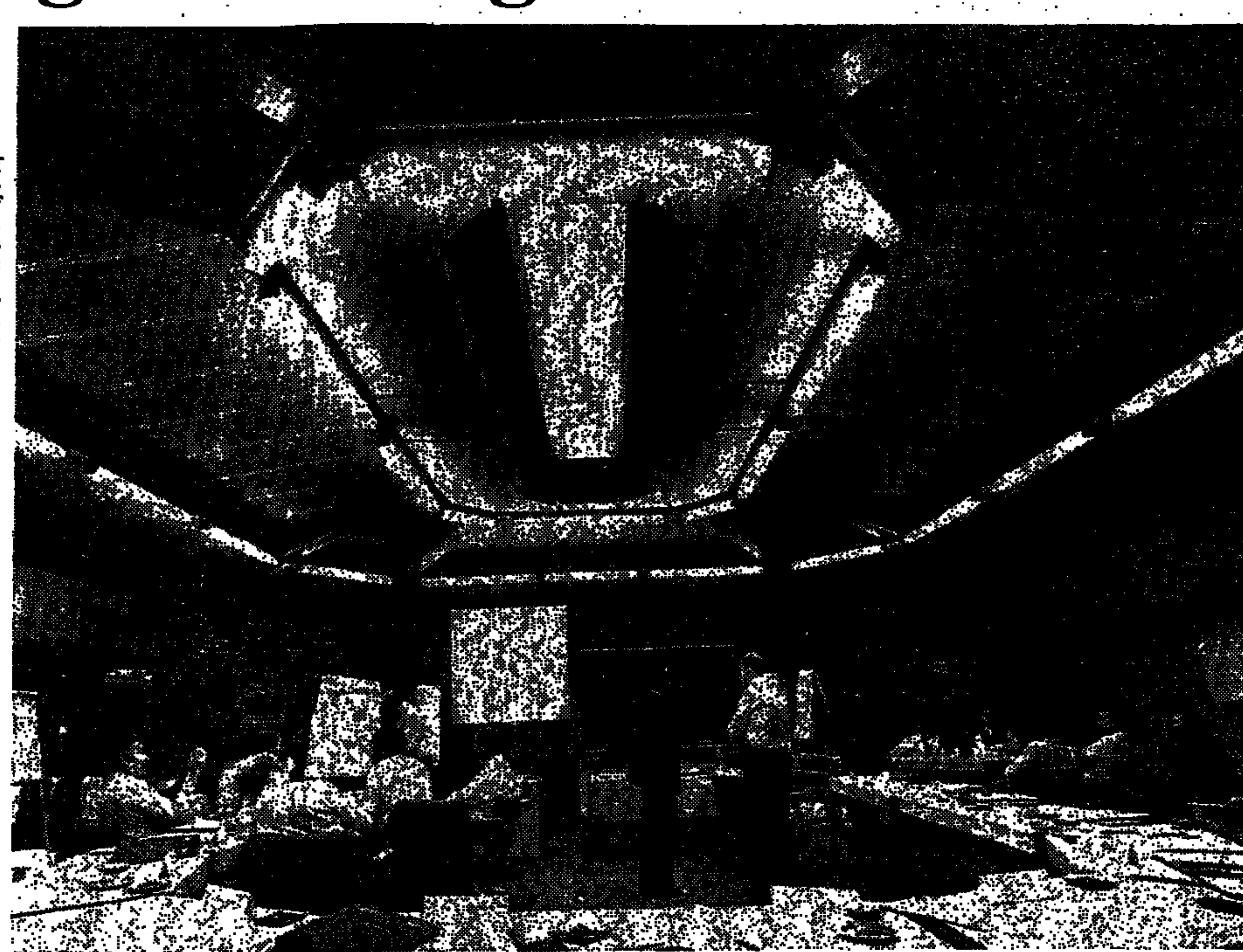
Aimed largely at those starting in management is an Introduction to Management course and another for Developing Managerial Skills. Two other particularly successful groups of programmes for developing special skills cover organizational behaviour and employee relations strategies. All are open programmes, but each has a counterpart in programmes tailored to an individual company's needs.

Dr Handy said: "It is possible to make a start in management and work through a series of programmes, coming back from time to time at different stages of a career."

Colin Hastings, who is director of the organizational behaviour programmes, said: "The sort of person who typically can benefit is the manager who has been a technical or a financial specialist and who then moves into managing people for the first time. He or she might take the managerial skills programmes at a time when it is necessary to take a wider view of the business and a hard look at the future".

In common with all Ashridge programmes the courses are results-orientated – "the difference is between an acceptable performance and an excellent performance, the securing of a quantum leap", as Mr Hastings described it.

Dr Handy said: "You have to get individuals to challenge a lot of their assumptions about themselves and their organizations. It is one of the most important aspects of helping people and organizations to move forward." As on other courses the managers can learn a lot from each other, so there is a deliberate attempt to achieve a fruitful mix of course members in terms of backgrounds and sector experience.



Putting light on the subject: study sessions in Ashridge's ultra-modern Brindley conference room

The course for Developing Managerial Skills is a three-week one, usually with 25 course members. There are five such courses this year and six next. They were launched at the beginning of this year as a developed replacement for the well-established younger managers programme. The programme is particularly aimed at those with two to five years of experience in their first managerial position, and is designed to improve skills, build confidence and impart an in-depth understanding of business organization, achieving results through people, with the emphasis always on the bottom line where financial results in a company show through.

To develop the programme, the college mounted research among a number of companies to determine what present needs are. This process will continue. Dr Handy said: The programmes, like the economic climate, are changing all the time.

"Managers at this stage are in many ways the most challenging group. They tend not to have a framework in which to put their ideas and they are still creating a distinctive style for themselves. They may give the impression of being very confident but often it is very shallow. They need to develop style and the confidence with which to put their ideas across. Demands by companies are changing rapidly, so we are instilling new attitudes and ideas about performance into such future senior managers."

Persuasion and influence

A new trend is for managers to work more as members of a team. Dr Handy explained: "They are having to work through other people rather than just telling them what to do. They have to be able to persuade and to influence."

Parts of the Managerial Skills Development programmes are projects located outdoors, organized by Endeavour Training. Ashridge has been a leader in using the outdoors as a vehicle for managment development.

Over two days, at the end of the first course week, on foot, by bicycle and even by canoe on the nearby Grand Union Canal, groups of course members carry out excerises which demand teamwork, leadership, strategic planning and tactics to achieve a trarget. The outdoor projects are integrated to play a predetermined role in overall achievement during the course. Dr Handy said: "We believe it is relevant to what people have to do in reality and what people are trying to do."

Programmes covering organizational behaviour have been considerably expanded this year. In addition to programmes on leadership development and interpersonal skills there are two new ones covering effective teamworking skills and performance through people.

The one-week Leadership Development Programmes are designed for middle to upper level executives managing sizeable business units. It is an adaption for European demands of a concept orginally devised by the Centre for Creative Leadership in North Carolina, with which Ashridge now has active links.

The five-day Performance Through People course is designed for managers taking on the responsibility of managing people for the first time. It gives them a clear framework on how they can achieve better results.

Four courses exploring employee relations have been formulated because this whose area has undergone such immense change in the past few years.

They cover negotiating skills, personnel management, employee relations in various sectors such as manufacturing and finance, and stategic approaches.

Dr Handy said: "A lot of the old values have been challenged. The shape of collective bargaining has changed quite dramatically as have attitudes. It is now less about keeping people happy, but more about improving efficiency."

Derek Harris

Sir Trevor's high-fliers

Next month Sir Trevor Holdsworth, chairman of GKN, will host the college's 25th anniversary dinner and will no doubt cast his mind back to his first visit to Ashridge for the first four-week course for aspiring middle managers.

Sir Trevor was one of 29 junior managers on the first "Ashridge Executive Course" which was the forerunner of the Management Development Programme. Among the other "students" was Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Enviroment, then working in the economics and statistical department of Distillers. Mr Jenkin will make the keynote speech at the dinner.

Mr Jenkin said his stay at Ashridge on the original course in April 1959 helped in improving "one's appreciation of the role of management activities." At the time he was involved in advising the Distillers group on a range of fiscal, economic, financial and adminstrative issues.

Since that first course around 8,000 executives have passed through the college on the development programme and the college has been trying to track down the original 29 to invite them to the dinner. Almost all have now been found, and they will be sitting down with a similar number of today's young managers at present on the course.

Sir Trevor, who was working for the Bowater paper group when he went to Ashridge, has since become a governor of the college, but remembers well his introduction to management training. "By comparison with present day Ashridge, the course was not very sophisticated. I think they had only one permanent member of staff and the rest were seconded from Shell and other companies.

"But it was very lively and experimental and I suppose we were considered the high flyers. What I found was that in addition to the theory there was a nice mixture of the practical in the course. It gave us the chance of a period mixing with other people and sharing experiences and discussing problems with others", said Sir Trevor.

Sir Trevor, whose course covered most general aspects of management, including personnel, finance and dealing with people, is like many other "old students" in that they have difficulty in pointing to any identifiable practical benefits of their visits to Ashridge, except that they came away feeling that they were better equipped for further and higher management experience.

Hamish Richie, director of the C. T. Bowring insurance group, first went to Ashridge as a 31-year-old junior manager in 1973. He is one of the few who believes it may be possible to quantify the benefits of management training. Bowring has been sending more than 100 people on sales and marketing courses and he thinks the company may be able to see the results of the training in higher income by the end of this year.

"That first visit opened my eyes to a lot of things. They emphasized the need to have people running some groups or areas of operations and that idea – that if you want to be successful you have to keep the units small – has stayed with me", said Mr Richie, who has returned to the college on several occasions.

Sir Trevor **Holdsworth: from student manager to governor of the college**

Bowring has an arrangement with Ashridge under which the residential courses are followed up by a tutor holding workshops inside the company at various locations around the country. "I think the courses make people more aware of their surroundings, getting them to ask intelligent questions, and to become more involved in selling themselves and the companys", said Mr Ritchie.

Managers agree that one of the chief benefits of a stay at Ashridge is the opportunity to discuss at length problems encountered by managers from different businesses and to ask whether they can learn from other managers' experiences. Mr Ritchie pointed out that until the recession, insurance had been esentially an entrepreneurial business with little demand for management structures and visits to Ashridge had alerted managers to the need for strong disciplines in a more competetive business environment.

Jonathan Paul, managing director of Pauls Agriculture, based in Ipswich, paid his first visit to the college in 1980 and came away with "a better understanding about the principles of management, which I am sure makes us able to do our job better. If we understand industrial relations better we can get greater productivity from our people."

Pauls Agriculture is part of Pauls and Whites, which employs 2,300 people and has two other divisions specializing in malt manufacturing and flavour and fragrance production. Around 10 managers a year from the group attend courses at Ashridge, ranging in experience from junior managers and managers in their second managerial job.

"The exchange of ideas and experiences with people from other industries is very important. It's a bit like going back to school to learn how to be a better manager," he said. The company also uses Ashridge for its strategic planning exercises and an additional factor in the college's favour, the company argue, is the attractive surroundings which make for a relaxed atmosphere.

Managers at all levels are agreed that it is unusual to attend an Ashridge course for remedial reasons. The acceptance of the need to go to Ashridge is usually associated with the need to learn and expand business experience and knowledge rather than to correct existing failings. As one manager said: "There would be little point in someone with failings going to Ashbridge because they most likely would not be good management material."

Bob Sambrook, group personnel director of Willis Faber, international insurance brokers and underwriters, is an Ashridge old boy and helps organize courses for around 45 of the group's senior managers each year. The college runs tailor-made courses for the company, which, said Mr Sambrook, brings about a general increase in the level of managerial understanding.

He agrees with other managers that Ashbridge's main contribution is to widen managers' horizons, to make them more receptive to new ideas. "What I found out about myself allowed me to concentrate on the things that I saw could be improved. You may have an idea of areas where you have difficulties, but when someone writes it down on paper it all seems so obvious."

David Felton

Following the trail of 8,000 executives from around the world

Chalk and talk takes on a new approach

In 1959 the then newly established Ashridge Management College set up the Ashridge Executive Course. It is still going strong, in its now developed form, as the magangement development programme and claimed to be probably the most consistently successful of any programme of its type.

The claim seems well founded: around 8,000 executives from some 80 different countries have taken this course over the years. In June the 200th course starts its four-week run. The programme is Ashridge's biggest revenue earner, accounting for 17 per cent of all income.

To celebrate the course's quarter century, linking as it does with the college's own 25th anniversary, 14 scholarships for the course are being given by the college to managers from the major charities in Britain. The scholarships are being spread through various courses during this year.

The management development programme is designed as a broadening experience for managers in mid-career. The aim is to help them develop deeper understanding of operational aspects of management and to take a wider view of a company's total operations.

The nature of the course has necessarily changed over the years. Geoff Smith, director of studies for middle management programmes, said: "Twenty-five years ago it was the chalk and talk approach. Now we have structured exercises and a participative course, although all within a framework otherwise it would be too easy for a tutor to opt out and that would be a disaster. We try to get there by practical exercises and structural discussions, while taking in some formal inputs including case studies."

Course director for the management development programme is Martin Scott who has seen company attitudes on middle manager training change radically. At one time much training was regarded as remedial, helping overcome individual weaknesses and bringing managers up to a minimum standard, he pointed out. Now most organizations search for people with potential and help them develop it.

It still means much learning occurs at work, possibly buttressed by coaching or distance-learning packages. The short-term pressures inherent in most management work does militate against learning in depth and tends to harness managers to their own speciality.

This is why residential courses by relieving managers of such pressures given the mid-career man – or woman – time to think and explore. There is a deliberate attempt at Ashridge to bring together on the courses a mix of managers from different company backgrounds and from different specialities while all are at a similar stage in their careers.

Mr Smith said: "It means managers can learn from each other as well as the tutors. It is, of course, not just a matter of bringing 30 odd people together; if events are structured carefully to promote participation then there is a lot of learning achieved."

The group for each course is balanced so that there are not too many from a single company or a particular sector, although Mr Smith regrets there are not more managers of directors of smaller businesses. "We get some women managers on the courses but there are not enough of them either", he added.

The average age of course participants is 37 to 38 and anybody over 45 is in practice rare. Many companies send managers they are planning to promote.

Mr Scott said: "People are most likely to learn things which they see as being relevant to their needs. We help managers reflect on their own jobs and their future aspirations, from this to think about their personal strengths and weaknesses and then to develop their personal learning objectives."

He added: "Different people inevitably have different needs. That can mean different managers will learn different things. The structure of the programme does, however, not only allow this but encourages it. It also allows for learning to be done in a variety of ways. We recognize that many experienced managers do not learn effectively by listening to lectures."

The final session of the programme concentrates on action planning. Each manager draws up a personal list of actions to be taken as a result of the work at Ashridge, adding a game plan for implementing the actions.

Constant reassessment has led to changes in the course. Work on negotiating skills has been developed because of the increasing demands on managers and customers as well as staff. There are new sessions which explore power, politics and conflict in organizations. Management of temporary task groups is another new focus.

For the past year the course has included a session in which a doctor discusses executive health, particularly in relationship to stress, diet and exercise.

Derek Harris



Changing concepts: Geoff Smith, left, and Martin Scott

Tailor-made training at almost £2m a year

One of the main growth areas for Ashridge in recent years has been in the college's tailor-made programmes which can be designed to suit the training needs of individual companies, many of which are grappling with management problems associated with business expansion.

It is no coincidence that the growth in the tailor made (TM) sector, to a point where this year it expected to account for 50 per cent of the college's business, has taken place at a time of recession.

Michael Osbaldeston, director of external relations, explains: "In the 1970s companies were spending money on what could be described as general education. But those companies now wanting to continue investing in management training are much more choosy and are looking for value for money".

The trend away from general management courses has been most notable in four areas of British business, the high technology, financial services, manufacturing and construction industries. This has led to TM programmes contributing around £1.75m last year to the college's turn over and is half of Ashridge's income from fees. Almost 2,000 managers from 40 companies were involved in TM programmes last year.

An approach from a company seeking a TM programme can often be the start of a planned training programme which will span several years and several generations of managers. The initial investigation of a company's needs will take a minimum of three months and in some cases up to a year.

Once this survey has been completed, Ashridge will put together a training package carefully designed to suit the company. It does not always follow that the problems or gaps in managemeent that a company believes exist will be those identified by the client director and his team allocated by the college.

The largest user of TM programmes is the Racal group of electronic companies, whose association with Ashridge started five years ago with a training package for 15 employees in the group's communication's arm. This year 190 managers from some of the 60-plus companies in the group will be visiting Ashridge.

For Racal the college put together a training programme in five segments or "modules" designed to give the company's preponderance of highly qualified engineers management skills to cope with the company's expansion. An indication of the benefits that flow from such programmes would be that many of the middle managers on those early courses are now directors of Racal companies.

The first module was concerned with general principles of managing people and dealt with the skills needed to motivate staff. Linked closely to that was the second module, which comprised more intensive training, in particular management skills such as handling meetings and counselling. Each of the components of the programme took the form of a week-long course and the third module in this series was devoted to finance. At that stage Racal's finance director went to Ashridge to bring a personal touch to the course by lecturing on the company's financial system.

That module, which taught the engineers the skills of budget-making and cost control, was followed by the fourth week during which managers discussed risk analysis, the process of decision-making in areas such as high cost purchasing and the ability to weight advantages against disadvantages, all of which were described as the "tool kits for decision making."

The fifth week's course was developed later than the others, and concentrated on project management; it looked at the financial, marketing and technical aspects of large contracts which the managers might have to run in the future. Those five modules designed for Racal have now been expanded by further programmes which cater for more senior managers right up to director level.

Another company that has recently used a tailor made programme is TSB Trust Co. which has experienced a rapid growth size and profitability but had entered a period of uncertainty because the managerial methods of achieving the company's objectives had become unclear. Ashridge designed a two-day workshop for the top 15 managers including the chief executive which ran through a six point course.

The starting point was examination of the managerial framework of the company, running on to awareness of the direct influence of the management culture on behaviour and company performance, a diagnosis of the existing company culture, consequences for company performance, vision building, which incorporated mission identification, and the personal values of top management, and finally the means of making policies become a practical reality.

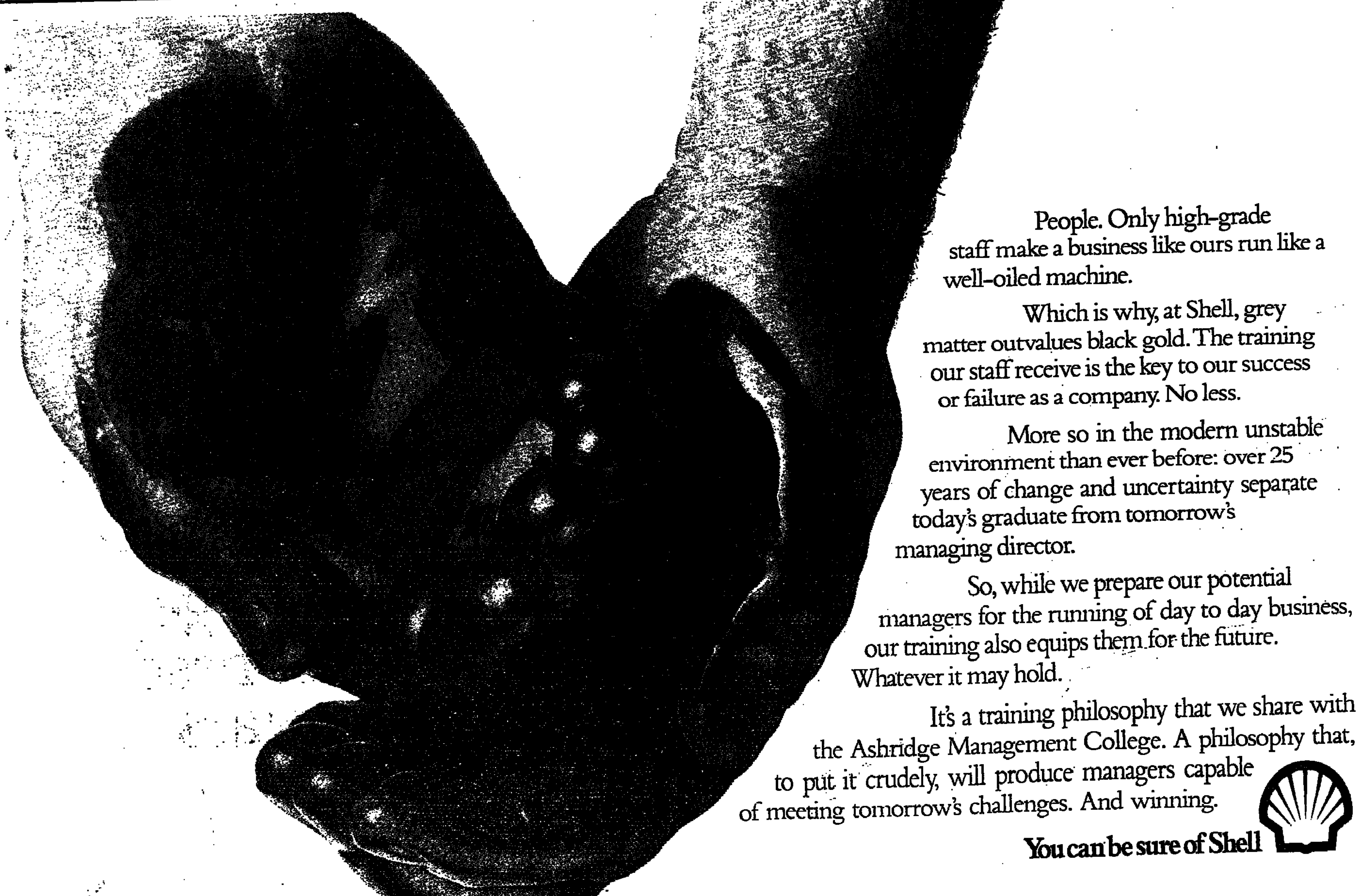
Two of the client directors for TM programmes, Roger Plant and Mark Ryan, explain in a paper to be published soon that the outcome of the workshop was a statement of aims for a revised management culture.

Plant and Ryan's paper says: "This is clearly only the beginning of the process, but we were excited by just how much was achieved in two days, given the right process and provided there is a genuine and recognized need to shift the culture, as in this case.

"Brian Braun, managing director of TSB Trust Co said to us at the end of the seminar: 'I have never been so unsure of where I was going as I have been, during the last two days, but it was worth it'. We believe it is a very necessary process for any company to take stock of what their culture is and whether it is appropriate for the business they are in," the paper concludes.

D.F.

David Felton



Reshaping after the shake-out

The rapidly changing face of British industry has been forcing many British companies to conduct fundamental reappraisals of the way they operate, and a key element of company reconstruction has been the blurring of traditional management "demarcation lines".

Ashridge has over the last decade developed a series of special programmes in the finance and marketing fields to assist in that process and to widen the business awareness of managers. Changes in attitudes have become necessary with the realization that industry needs to become more competitive and the dramatic impact of new technology on business methods.

The shake-out of British industry over the last five years has led to major changes in managers' attitudes through "management by crisis", according to Martyn Brown, director of marketing programmes. "It's the cold realization of what is happening when you look around and see empty desks that persuades you to start talking to other people in the company", he said.

The new thinking in marketing and finance can form the basis of either open or tailor-made courses. Managers are directed toward more outward thinking and to be more aggressive in climate of stiff international competition.

Peter Beddowes, director of studies said: "After the shake-out we started thinking about where business ought to be going in the future and the message has got through to most boards of directors that we are not going back to the past." Those bad old days of marketing people not talking to the finance department and vice versa, are now being replaced by acceptance that there is an increasing interdependence.

Ashridge has had four main marketing programmes running for the last five years and has just introduced a new course called Innovative Business Development which aims to encourage the "entrepreneurial and innovative" approach to increasing the understanding mangers have of other departments in their companies. Mr Beddowes said that in the past there had been a tendency for marketing departments to be "almost ostracized" by the rest of the company, while marketing staff themselves had little interest in the processes to be gone through before their plans were either accepted or rejected.

Another course offered is the Brand Managers' Development Programme, launched two years ago, which aims to make product managers "financially articulate" and aware of the economic constraints under which company can be operating. The product, or brand, manager is typically an Oxbridge graduate, a potential high flyer who has joined the company from a graduate training course. He or she will be ambitious and will probably argue that they are "interested in pioneering the company forward", according to Mr Beddowes.

The programme will alert them to the fact that this attitude makes them less effective and will encourage them to develop analytical and sales skills. The latter is important because companies now tend to be more reliant on their five biggest customers, and marketing executives ought to be able to understand those customers' difficulties and attitudes. This programme is closely allied to a course which directs marketing managers' attention to customer profitability, changes in the marketplace and analysis of different types of customers.

Another programme introduced two years ago, concentrates on micro-computers and in a three day course managers are told of the impact of changes in office technology. The introduction of more flexible computer systems means that a wide range of information is now available through desk top visual display screens. New equipment is going to have "a very dramatic impact on the way business is going to be organized", is the Ashridge view.

Traditional accounting procedures are under some threat, because managers in other departments will be able to call up information such as profit and loss statements on their screens. Ashridge carries a range of computer equipment for the 12 leading companies in the UK and is able to offer advice on the best system to suit the needs of a particular business.

"Unless the middle manager adopts the new flexible approach he is in danger of becoming a threatened species. If he hides in his departmental fortress, he becomes vulnerable, but if he takes on these new skills he has a greater contribution to make", Mr Beddowes said. A series of financial courses aims to provide managers with basic financial knowledge and skills rising to programmes for more senior executives on the further financial course.

The marketing and finance programmes also call heavily on outside consultants to bring some variety to the courses. This is especially true in the marketing field, where Ashridge uses three of the biggest advertising agencies and it also calls on the expertise of some research and product development agencies.

One by-product of breaking down barriers between marketing and financial disciplines could well be an increase in tension between respective department managers, and the Ashridge course designers are closely monitoring the situation.

David Felton



Staff group in the Brindley Room: Peter Beddowes (seated, front), Michael Osbaldeston, Roger Plant, Mark Ryan, Martyn Brown, Colin Hastings and Laurence Handy

Putting the management show on the railroad

Why is it that so many railwaymen go train-spotting on their day off, and why do so many pilots and senior airline managers construct model aeroplanes in their bedrooms, or fly balloons at weekends? You would think they had enough of the job when they were actually doing it.

Is it pride in the job? Certainly. Traditions of loyalty and dedication? Undoubtedly. A genuine and deep interest in, not to say love of, how they earn their crust? There can't be much wrong with that. But such commitment always brings with it the possible attendant danger that railwaymen will only ever see railways, ferrymen will only see ships, and those who run airlines will never lower their eyes from the skies.

Transport undertakings, be they railways, municipal buses, airlines or ferries, face so many problems with a common base and so many potential common solutions, that there is great and obvious scope for one to learn from the other. Problems of flexible rostering on BR? The National Bus Company long ago mastered flexible rostering. Problems on London Transport trying to plot bus services on a computer? British Airways has been plotting flights by computer for years.

Ashridge has had a transport management centre under its roof since 1982, when the old British Transport Staff College at Woking, originally founded before the war by the Southern Railway, closed its doors and moved with its principal, Gordon Beard, to the Chiltern beechwoods. The college is currently being reorganized and its scope broadened to be relaunched shortly as the Ashridge Centre for Transport Management.

When the BTSC was taken over by the old British Transport Commission in the 1950s, it was intended as a staff college for the entire nationalized transport industry, from British Road Services to Sealink.

Exclusive freemasonry

But over the years it became increasingly railway dominated, and its new proprietors are anxious to recapture that original breadth of interest and build on it.

Richard Graham, its new director, acknowledges that transport is a highly specialized business, and breeds a kind of exclusive freemasonry among those who work in it. He sees his task largely as one of discouraging the narrowness of vision that can affect managers in individual forms of transport, be it railways or bus companies.

"I want to get them out of their boxes, and to appreciate the common denominators. Three things are common to all transport undertakings: they are highly systematized, their labour force is permanently dispersed, and their managers manage and make their mistakes in full public view."

Graham himself is a former British Airways manager. He launched the Glasgow shuttle and for several years ran the airline's entire staff of cabin crews. It is significant, he observes, that his old employers no longer have a staff college of their own.

His deputy, Brian Ellison, is a one-time master mariner who has been a port manager at Plymouth and Fleetwood.

Senior transport managers who come on Graham's high-level courses on transport finance marketing, industrial relations and related topics, will probably have already attended one or more of Ashridge's more general management courses.

The new syllabus, currently in preparation, will show less emphasis on general management and more on the specific requiremeents of the transport industry.

Quality of academic instruction apart, Ashridge Centre for Transport Management has one other major bonus: you can still get there by train.

Alan Hamilton

Pilgrims in search of peace

When Edmund, Earl of Cornwall founded a small monastery among the Chiltern beechwoods at Ashridge 701 years ago, the monks of the College of Bonhommes who walked its cloisters doubtless found its sequestered situation, helped by a daily dose of persecution of the flesh, highly conducive to concentrating the mind.

Today's pilgrims from the world of business who come for enlightenment upon the gospels of management still value the peace that is born from an absence of ringing telephones, but today's doctrine of managerial learning demands not a persecution of the flesh, but a pampering.

Alan Warner, Ashridge's director of administration, runs what amounts to a full-scale four-star hotel, set in its own 250 acres of some of the finest countryside in the Home Counties. "Managers today travel a great deal, and if they come to Ashridge they will not tolerate anything less than the standards they are accustomed to in the best hotels", he said.

That has meant building three new bedroom blocks in the past eight years to provide a total of 150 bedrooms, all single occupancy and all with en-suite bathroom, and a 35-strong housekeeping staff to tend them. There are, Warner will admit, some very good conference hotels around, but no hotel can match the college's single-minded dedication to one particular type of client.

Ashridge's major current project, however, is the construction of a physical fitness centre dedicated to the pampering or, at worst, the gentle persecution of the flesh, with swimming pool, squash court, sauna and exercise area due for completion later this year. Mental exertion, Warner believes, is sharpened by occasional doses of physical exertion. Another good reason for its provision is that Ashridge takes pride in its catering and extensive wine cellar.

But lest it be imagined that Ashridge is gradually transforming itself into some sybaritic health farm, like the celebrated Champneys just down the road, it should be remembered that equal effort is put into providing the best teaching facilities. The college has recently completed a new conference room for between 30 and 100 delegates, and has provided two microcomputer rooms where those on courses can employ the help of the microchip for whatever project they may be engaged on.

Significantly, the college also provides an audio-visual room with closed-circuit television, where managers can receive training in how to handle those troublesome people who hang around their doorsteps at every whiff of trouble – journalists.

But perhaps its outstanding facility is its library, still housed in the same room that housed the books when Ashridge was the stately home of the Earls of Bridgewater and now one of the largest management libraries in the United Kingdom, with a large stock of video material complementing the books.

The house itself, an early nineteenth century Gothic revival exercise by James Wyatt for the seventh Earl of Bridgewater, might be thought a distraction to study, with its sumptuous interior and painted ceiling in the conference room. Warner thinks not.

"The environment is unique, and is highly effective for getting people to switch off from their everyday routine. The physical peace and quiet is a great help, but so is the fact that our visitors are in surroundings so completely different from the everyday. They do not, in fact, spend long gazing at the painted ceiling when they should be listening to a tutor."

If concentration palls, many means of revival are at hand: cricket and football pitches, snooker tables, two golf courses on the doorstep or, if solitude is the answer to an overtaxed mind, miles of walking in those magnificent National Trust beechwoods, listening for the ghosts of the monks, of Henry VIII who had the previous house on the site as a residence, or of Bonar Law, in whose memory the Conservative Party's education centre was established here in 1929. However did they all manage without the sauna?

A.H.



THE TIMES
FINANCE AND INDUSTRY
Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Complications in the aerial dogfight

British Airways has not been a soft touch, let alone a pushover, since the accession of Lord King, the appointment of Mr Colin Marshall and the arrival of Mr Gordon Dunlop. It would therefore have been out of character had BA not appealed vigorously to the Secretary of State for Transport, Mr Nicholas Ridley, against the Civil Aviation Authority's decision to licence British Caledonian in preference to BA to fly between London and Riyadh. This it did yesterday, describing the CAA's ruling as "a severe, self-inflicted wound on UK civil aviation."

There is one basic issue underlying the dogfight in Saudi airspace between Lord King and Sir Adam Thomson of British Caledonian. How far is the Government, or the CAA justified in trying to strengthen smaller airlines by weakening British Airways? Two years ago there would have been no argument. BA deserved most of what was thrown at it and would have had a poor defence against anything, like profitable routes, taken away from it. The verdict now is not nearly as simple: in principle because BA has performed extraordinary feats in getting itself into a vigorous commercial shape; in practice because BA is to be privatized next year and for the Government, the seller, it does not make sense to through sand gratuitousley into BA's engines.

The Government is not of course immune to these considerations, as the Minister demonstrated in his time-honoured ducking procedure of asking the CAA to conduct "a wide ranging policy review". BA claims that in granting the Riyadh license, the CAA not only acted outside its present scope but it also prejudged the outcome of the review. The really worrying doctrine for BA is the CAA's assumptiom of "competitive imbalance" which should be adjusted by giving another airline preferential treatment whenever a profitable new route becomes available. If carried this doctrine would undoubtedly limit BA's future growth.

The reborn BA and its valuable route structure have caught the interest, the imagination even, of the New York investment community. A paring down of routes coupled with a refusal to grant new licenses would dent BA's chances of attracting an American investment following. These are currently good. Wafted thither on the expectation of a £250m operating profit for the year ended last week. Lord King is in New York in preparation for a BA board meeting in the Big Apple tomorrow. Showing the flag, however, extends further than the board. The great and the good of the New York investment houses will also gather tomorrow in the Intercontinental Hotel to hear the chairman's account of the reviving fortunes of "British Air".

The political choices as they affect BA and British Caledonian are not easy. There is a spirit or deregulation in the air and calls for more competition from Tory backbenchers. On the other hand there is not too much evidence that these splendid concepts have been thought through. Moreover, it is not always clear what the interests are of some MP's who have ranged themselves against BA.

One thing is certain. The British aviation industry is now blessed with some determined, business-minded and dedicated men. Sir Adam Thomson was quick to respond to BA's complaints yesterday: "British Caledonian was awarded the licence to serve Riyadh on its ability to compete effectively from Gatwick", he said, to combat BA's Heathrow argument (which however may impress the Saudis more than it did the CAA). To BA's charge that BCal had postponed starting the service, he said that BCal was waiting for the Saudis "to sign an air services agreement." That may not be the formality it seems, but it does not touch the larger questions of how best to foster both BA and BCal without damaging either.

City changes mind on Gower report

Professor Laurence "Jim" Gower senses a sudden change in City thinking about investor protection. The Square Mile Establishment spent many months persuading him that the City would not countenance a self-regulatory system based on function rather than trading or commercial groupings. Now the SME appears to have done an aboutface to support his most important proposals.

The City Capital Markets Committee, an informal group of high powered City individuals much respected by the Bank of England has responded to the Gower Report on Investor Protection with a proposal that an investment protection panel set up to make an immediate start on organizing no more than four self-regulatory agencies: one covering the Stock Exchange; one for non-Stock Exchange dealers in securities; another for investment activities of fund management, including unit and investment trusts; and a fourth covering the commodity and financial futures markets. If responses from other representative organizations (they are coming in at a trickle to the Department of Trade and Industry) follow a similar pattern, the future regulatory framework might well be fashioned as Professor Gower would prefer.

They suggest the investment protection panel would join the takeover panel under the umbrella of a much smaller Council for the Securities Industry, although the Department of Trade and Industry would remain the ultimate arbiter. Such a structure would rule out, at least until the shortcomings were exposed, a statutory American-style Securities Commission.

An early indication of government commitment to changes along these (or indeed any other sane) lines would clearly help the cause. There is a certain urgency in the insurance area. The Registry of Life Assurance Commissions (Rolac) was set up to regulate the payment of commissions and incentives to intermediaries in the industry. It has not recruited quite all life companies as members and it is unlikely to start exercising control until the end of the year. The Department of Trade and Industry has said it would be prepared to introduce the minimum statutes needed to police and enforce commission rules should all companies fail to become members. That was three months ago.

ROLAC is a recommended part of Professor Gower's scheme of things and its first Registrar starts work on Monday. He is Mr Malcolm Reid, former head of the Department of Trade and Industry's Financial Services and Companies Division.

Dividends ride the tide

Those who believe that shares, riding high in a long bull market, will continue to outperform most alternative investments, will find encouragement in dividend projections made by the broker, James Capel. Distributions for 1983 are likely to increase by around 15 per cent, which is more than three times the rate of inflation, if the companies (around a half) that have already reported are a true guide. Moreover, the rate of growth in dividends has increased as more companies have reported their 1983 figures.

Fifteen per cent would be well in excess of anything seen since 1979 when dividends were boosted by hefty one-off payments made in the wake of the abolition of dividend controls. Dividends have continued to rise during the recession. Even in 1981, when some leading companies cut their dividends, the total distribution to ordinary shareholders was up on the year before.

On the other side of the coin – and this should be emphasized – the increase in payments to shareholders since 1979 has fallen well behind the rate of inflation. There is a certain amount of catching up implicit in the current round.

In any year it usually happens that companies which report first establish a pattern others follow. Industrial and insurance companies will undoubtedly be raising their dividends as much as they decently can to stave off the possibility of unwanted takeover bids. One final point: thanks to the abolition of the investment income surcharge dividends are henceforth worth much more to many people.

Stock Exchange Council split on operating new-style market

By William Kay and Wayne Lintott

A considerable rift has developed within the Stock Exchange Council over the shape of the stock market when the present system of fixed commissions is abandoned next year.

The disagreements partly reflect a rearguard action by council members who still believe that it was wrong to do a deal with the Government to avoid being taken to court by the Office of Fair Trading.

Much of the impetus for change is coming from the five lay members of the council who were appointed last December with the agreement of the Bank of England.

The council has been debating a draft "green paper" proposing how the Stock Exchange should liberalize its rule book under the terms of the deal struck last summer with Mr Cecil Parkinson, then Secretary of State at the Department of Trade and Industry. A much modified version should be published by the end of this month.

The council is in broad agreement that the advent of freely negotiated commission will spell the end of the present distinction between brokers and jobbers. The main issue has been the exact nature of the dealing device which will replace that arrangement. It must allow the maximum number of market makers, the greates liquidity and the highest degree of investor protection.

The radical solution to this would be a fully electronic, computerized system, supplemented by the trading floor. But it may not be possible to devise that in time.

Allied to this is a disagreement over the rate at which fixed commissions are to be dismantled. Some of the "inside" members of the council have expressed disquiet that the incoming lay members have not understood some of the problems.

The five lay members are Mr John Hull of the merchant banking group Schroders, Mr Hugh Jenkins, investment manager of the National Coal Board pension fund, Mr Robin Adam a former BP director who is joining the property group MEPC as chairman, Mr Alan Clements of ICI and Professor Robert Jack of Glasgow University.

Professor Jack has said: "We must avoid the idea that the Stock exchange is a magic circle." Mr Hull commented on his appointment: "The Stock Exchange is not just a club whose members are running their own show."

Although these five newcomers are outnumbered by the 46 other members of the council, their Bank of England backing is a powerful card. The Bank is said to be assembling council members sympathetic to the changes it wants.

One of the most sensitive topics is the speed at which overseas companies should be allowed access to the London stock market and, conversely, how quickly Stock Exchange firms should be allowed to deal freely in overseas securities.

Hanson in US talks

Hanson Trust was hopeful last night that it would be able to agree take over terms with US Industries at meeting in New York.

Sir Gordon White, the director in charge of Hanson's extensive United States interests, was due to meet his Mr Gordon Walker, counterpart at US Industries, concerning Hanson's tentative bid approach.

Hanson has already told US Industries, which is a widely diversified industrial group, that it is prepared to top a leveraged management "buyout", worth $407m (£279m) which has already been arranged.

Sir Gordon said: "I cannot imagine they are too happy about our proposal since under the management 'buyout' scheme they would have ended up with 30 per cent of the equity.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 1093.6, down 1.8 (high: 1095.1 Low: 10.93.4
FT Index: 857.8 down 1.4
FT Gilts: 82.0 down 0.06
FT All Share: 516.28 down 0.78
Bargains: 31,140
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 112.2 down 0.78
New York: Dow Jones Average: (latest) 1147.93 down 0.8
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 11,002.03 up 68.21
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index Closed
Amsterdam: 172.8 down 0.1
Sydney: AO Index 750.4 up 5.4
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 1016.2 down 9.7
Brussels: General Index 148.32 up 0.25
Paris: CAC Index 166.2 down 2.3
Zurich: SKA General 309.8 up 0.6

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling
$1.4330 up 20pts
Index 79.9 up 0.2
DM 3.75 up 0.0125
FrF 11.5250 up 0.0350
Yen 323 up 1.25
Dollar
Index 127.0 up 0.1
DM 2.6170 up 0.0048
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling $1.4330
Dollar DM 2.6150
INTERNATIONAL
ECU £0.595493
SDR £0.742713

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 8½
Finance houses base rate 9½
Discount market loans week fixed 8½
3 month interbank 9 – 8⅞

Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 10$^{13}/_{16}$ – 10$^{15}/_{16}$
3 month DM 5¾ - 5⅝
3 month Fr F13⅞ - 13⅝

US rates
Bank prime rate 11.50
Fed funds 10⅞
Treasury long bond 95 - 95$^{1}/_{16}$

ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period March 7 1984 to April 3, 1984 inclusive: 8.976 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am $380.50 pm $381.25
close $381.50–382
(£266.25–266.75)
New York (latest): $381.25
Krugerrand* (per coin):
$393-394.50 (£274.25-275.25)
Sovereigns* (new):
$89.50-99.50 (£62.50-63.50)
*Excludes VAT

Tidbury: strengthening catering operations.

Whitbread may buy THF inns

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

Whitbread, the brewer, is holding talks on the possible takeover from Trusthouse Forte of its 22 Henekeys Inns, most of which are restuarant pubs.

With a substantial number of the properties available with freeholds the deal could probably be worth upwards of £10m.

Trusthouse Forte has been concentrating on core businesses, particularly the hotels. Only nine of the Henekeys outlets have bedrooms and these are no more than smaller hotels.

Whitbread has been expanding rapidly in steak houses with its Beefeater chain which now numbers 150. It has been expanding at well over 30 new steak houses a year and the number is expected to be near 200 by the end of this year.

The Henekeys chain would strengthen Whitbread further in the South-east where most of the Henekeys outlets are located although there are a few as far north as Leicestershire and Wolverhampton.

Whitbread under its chairman, Mr Charles Tidbury, has been moving strongly into catering elsewhere. It has a half stake with Pepsico in the Pizza Hut fast food chain which now has around 30 outlets. It also has launched what it hopes will become a chain of Hungry Fisherman outlets, specializing in fish dishes.

Protectionism 'costs UK £4bn a year'

By Our City Staff

Protectionism is costing Britain £4 billion a year, or £70 a person, a study from the Adam Smith institute reported yesterday.

In the eighth of its Omega series reports, on *Trade Policy*, the institute called for the scrapping of the Government's foreign trade insurance agency, the Export Credits Guarantee department, and its exports promotion agency, the British Overseas Trade Board.

It also advocated the winding up of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission and the National Economic Development Council. One of the authors of the report, Mr Andrew Hutchison, principal research executive of the Institute of Directors, said at its launch that present policy allowed the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry "a huge amount of discretion" as to which mergers should be allowed to go ahead. That power, he said, must be abolished.

The commission, he suggested should be replaced by "an expanded Office of Fair Trading and a souped-up restrictive practices court for prosecutions" – adding that it was impossible to quantify the cost to the economy of those mergers which are barred for the wrong reasons.

The institute noted that Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, was soon shortly to make a major pronouncement on trade policy.

Another of the authors, Mr Martin Wolf, director of studies at the Trade Policy Research Centre, said: "Many functions of the DTI are redundant or dangerous".

Among some highly controversial proposals, the study says that, regardless of what other industrially-advanced nations do, Britain should not only limit "voluntary export restraint" agreements (which, for example, limit Japanese car imports), but should also stop sweetening British bids for large industrial goods contracts with export subsidies.

Britannia pays £52m for bank

By Our Banking Correspondent

The management of the merchant bankers Singer & Friedlander will receive extra shares in the bank, worth nearly £3m, as part of the deal in which Britannia Arrow is buying Singer from European Ferries.

Details of the complex sale, which has been approved by the Bank of England, were announced yesterday. Britannia, the expanding unit trust and financial services group, is paying European Ferries £52m for its 92.5 per cent stake in Singer, valuing the merchant bank at £56.2m or underlying net asset value.

The remaining 7.5 per cent of Singer is owned by about 20 present and former directors and senior managers who had an option to sell this stake if control changed.

However, they have agreed not to exercise this option and in return will receive a further 5 per cent of the shares, leaving them with 12.5 per cent and Btitannia with 87.5 per cent. Britannia will have an option to buy the minority and the minority shareholders will have an option to sell the shares to Britannia in 1987.

The deal is aimed at ensuring management have an incentive to stay at the merchant bank. Britannia has been on the look out for a merchant bank to add to its range of interests

Britania is financing the acquisition with a placing of £30m of 9 per cent convertible unsecured loan stock 1995/2000. Existing shareholders are subscribing for £18.5m and Lazard Brothers is placing the rest. The group will use cash resources which stood at £28m at the end of last year to pay for the rest.

Mr Michael Newman, chief executive of Britannia, which paid £19.8m last year to buy National Employers' Life Assurance and raised £22m with a rights issue shortly after, said the Singer acquisition was part of the gradual evolution of the group

Gibbons chief drops plan to join society

By Jonathan Clare

Mr Clive Feigenbaum, chairman of Stanley Gibbons Holdings, yesterday withdrew his application for re-admission to the Philatelic Traders Society at the eleventh hour.

His withdrawal follows the suspension of Stanley Gibbons' shares before dealing had even officially started in the new shares on the Unlisted Securities Market on Monday.

Doubts are growing in the City that Stanley Gibbons will ever get its public quote at least under the present plans. The placing arrangments, organized by Simon & Coates the stockbrokers, are conditional on permission to deal being granted by tomorrow at the latest.

The Society, which expelled Mr Feigenbaum in 1970, expected to consider his re-application to join yesterday at its council meeting but received his letter "shortly before" it began.

The Stock Exchange ordered the suspension of Stanley Gibbons' shares after allegations about the collapse of a stamp business with which Mr Feigenbaum was associated.

The Society represents 900 stamp dealing companies. Six big dealers had threatened to resign if Mr Feigenbaum was readmitted. Yesterday Mr Henry Murray, the Society chairman, declined to comment. A statement from the Society about Stanley Gibbons is likely when the Stock Exchange inquiry is completed.

Three insurers improve profits

Three leading composite insurers, Phoenix Assurance, Guardian Royal Exchange and Sun Alliance, yesterday reported results for 1983 broadly in line with expectations.

At Phoenix, retax profits increased from £17.5m to £23.7m. Underwriting losses fell from £58.6m to £57.8m while premium income rose from £684.m to £505.7m. The board is recommending a final dividend of 12.2p, making a total of 19.8p.

Guardian Royal Exchange also reported increased pretax profits – of £122.2m against £106.2m. Underwriting losses fell from £66.1m to £63.5m while total premium income grew from £967m to £1,041m. An increased final dividend of 15.25p is being recommended, making 23p for the year.

Sun Alliance reported pretax profits of £73.4m against £56.8m. Underwriting losses fell from £70.9m to £67.4m while premium income grew from £789.9m to £884.8m.

Tempus, page23

Brazil spells out social cost of rescheduling

By John Lawless

Brazil's ambassador to London, Senhor Mario Gibson-Barboza, disclosed yesterday the social costs his country was facing in complying with an internationally-imposed debt rescheduling.

"In our case", he said, "a shock austerity programme means unemployment, malnutrition, infant mortality and even urban violence. It could mean, at any moment, a fuse being set to inflame a social backlash, with unpredictable consequences."

Brazil, he said, had the choice "to abide by the rules of the game, even if those rules do not prove to be entirely fair; or, to withdraw from the game and defy whatever consequences might arise."

"We can only hope", said a businessman at the annual meeting of the Brazilian Chamber of Commerce in Britain, "that Argentina is listening."

Argentina – having last week been given a $500m bridging loan by the US and four South American neighbours, including Brazil – meets with its main international creditors in New York again next Monday and Tuesday.

Those talks will deal with foreign debts of $43.5 billion (£307 billion). Bankers recognized that, although the loan kept Argentina from falling over a financial precipice, it is still close to the edge – and that progress must now be seen to be made both with them and the International Monetary Fund.

Peking sceptical on Hongkong losses

There is more capital flowing into Hongkong than out, a Chinese foreign ministry spokesman said at a press conference in Peking.

China had no comment to make on the decision by Jardine, Matheson to set up a new ultimate holding company in Bermuda, he said yesterday, but gave his own view that it was untrue that large amounts of capital were leaving Hongkong.

NEWS IN BRIEF

● **Pacific Telesis**, part of the former American Telephone and Telegraph network, is one of several companies discussing buying a stake in Mercury Communications, the private British telephone venture, industry sources said.

● **National Westminster** is to be sole lead manager for a £225m club loan to Total Oil Marine for development of Total's one-third share in the Alwyn North field in the North Sea.

● **Switzerland** formerly decided yesterday to join the "Group of Ten" leading industrial nations within the International Monetary Fund.

● **The Government** has completed its review of procedures for granting exploration and production licences for onshore oil and gas fields

● **An unofficial ginger group** of minority Shell Oil shareholders has urged them not to accept the $58 per share increased final takeover offer from the parent Royal Dutch/Shell group.

CCF rise confirmed

● **Consultants (Computer & Financial)** has confirmed in its annual report that its pretax profits reached £495,538 in 1983. This is four times the 1982 figure, on turnover which increased by 57 per cent to £2.1m. Shareholders will vote at the annual meeting on April 27 on a proposal to split the ordinary shares and make a four-for-one scrip. The dividend for the year is 6p – twice that of 1982.

Tempus, page 23

● **Associated Book Publishers** increased its pretax profit from £5.58m to £6.28m last year. Turnover rose by £5.5m to £57.25m. The directors have recommended a final dividend of 4.75p, making a total of 7.5p – an increase of 1p.

Tempus, page 23

Report highlights cost of failures

Business loans scheme attacked

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Wide ranging criticisms of the operations of the small business loan guarantee scheme have been expressed by Robson Rhodes, the accountants in an independent report, commissioned and published yesterday by the Department of Trade and Industry.

The report is critical of both banks and the borrowers involved in the scheme and is sure to fuel the debate over the future of the pilot scheme which runs until the end of May.

The report released yesterday by Mr David Trippier, under-Secretary of State for small businesses, comes as ministers are reviewing the success of the pilot and deciding whether changes should be made. There is also the possibility that the guarantee scheme could be abandoned, although this is considered less likey because of the political consequences of doing away with a scheme for small businesses.

Mr Trippier said yesterday that it was encouraging that Robson Rhodes considered the scheme to have been a worthwhile experiment. The report also says that the scheme may be a not too expensive way of financing jobs.

However, the Robson Rhodes study, based on an in-depth examination of 150 borrowers under the scheme backed by a telephone survey of another 100 borrowers, suggests that the failure rate has been running at about one-in-three loans.

This failure rate, well up from an estimated one-in-five rate in a similar report last year, would cost the Government about £30m a year. However Robson Rhodes says there have been indications of an improvement in 1983 and suggests the cost of failures to the Government could be around £25m a year.

Originally the scheme was intended to be self-financing. But the 3 per cent premium borrowers pay in return for which the Government guarantees 80 per cent of a loan provided by one of the 30 approved banks has proved indadequate to cover the cost.

Some of the small business lobby groups have argued that the Government should be prepared to subsidize the scheme on a permanent basis.

Since the pilot scheme began in June 1981, nearly 14,000 loans have been made totalling about £455m. However, in the period up to the end of last February the Goverment has had to pay out £33.8m to the banks on failures.

Robson Rhodes raises the possibility of increasing the share or risk taken by banks, by reducing the guarantee portion to 70 per cent and this is likely to be an option considered by the Government for reducing the cost of the scheme.

The latest report also suggests that many borrowers have been using the scheme as a way of raising money without having to offer personal security or guarantees.

COMPAGNIE BANCAIRE

Société Anonyme

Incorporated in France with limited liability
Regd. Office: 5 avenue Kléber, Paris 16 ème.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The shareholders of Compagnie Bancaire are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting to be held on Thursday 26th April, 1984 at 3.00 p.m. at the Head Office, 5 avenue Kléber, Paris 16 ème, to consider the following Agenda:

– The Report of the Board of Management.

– The Report of the Supervisory Board.

– The general report of the Auditors.

– The special report of the Auditors in accordance with Article 143 of the Law of 24th July, 1966.

– The examination and approval of the Balance Sheet and Accounts for the financial period 1983.

– The appropriation of profits and the fixing of the dividend.

– The Prorogation of the duties of a Censeur.

– The authorisation to the Board of Management to issue bonds to a total of ffr. 5 billion.

– Any other business.

In order to attend or be represented at the Meeting, owners of registered shares must have been entered on the register five clear days prior to the Meeting. Holders of bearer shares must deposit, at least five clear days prior to the Meeting at the Head Office, the certificate of deposit, issued by the bank, financial institution or stockbroker with whom their shares are lodged.

Shareholders who wish to attend the Meeting are requested to make advance application to the Company for an admission card.

SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND AND LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY

Notice is hereby given that the 170th Annual General Meeting of the Members of the Society will be held within the Head Office, 15 Dalkeith Road, Edinburgh, on Tuesday, the 1st day of May 1984 at 2.30 pm for the following purposes:

To consider the accounts and balance sheets for the year ended 31st December 1983 and the Reports of the Directors and Auditors.

To elect Directors.

To appoint Auditors.

To fix the remuneration of Directors.

To pass, if thought fit, the following Resolution recommended to the Members by the Directors:

"That the remuneration of the Auditors for the current year be fixed by the Directors of the Society."

To transact any other ordinary business proper to an Annual General Meeting.

Forms of Proxy for the use of Members of the Society who are unable to be present at the Meeting, but who may wish to vote thereat, may be obtained on application to the undersigned. To be effective Proxies must reach the Society's Head Office not less than two clear working days before the time for holding the Meeting.

C M CAVAYE
General Manager and Actuary
15 Dalkeith Road, Edinburgh
EH16 5BU
3rd April 1984

NOTE: A copy of the Report will be sent on request to any member who would like to have one.

£4.5m record for Queens Moat as brokings pick up

By Jonathan Clare

Business travellers are on the move and flocking to Queens Moat Houses' hotels even in depressed areas like the Midlands. As a result the company expects a substantial increase in profits this year.

Yeaterday, Mr John Bairstow, the chairman, reported record profits of £4.5m against £2.8m for last year on the back of new hotels and record occupancy rates.

Last year saw the first 12-months contribution by the hotels bought from Grand Metropolitan and a record year for the Drury Lane Hotel in London, acquired two months into the year.

The company has spent £55m on hotels over the last year, financed by rights issues and last December's debenture issue. But Mr Bairstow promised yesterday that there would be no cash call to shareholders for the foreseable future; they also get the benefit of a one for five scrip issue.

The Saxon hotel chain, acquired from Furness Withy, made an insignificant contribution to last year's results, but is expected to perform strongly this year under Queens Moat Houses' management.

The number of visitors this year is already up in every hotel in the group although January and February are normally quiet months.

The group's property has been revalued at £100m to give a surplus of between £10m and £15m which has reduced Queens Moat Houses' historically high gearing to 74 per cent. "But if you disallow the convertible loanstock it comes down to 53 per cent", said Mr Bairstow.

The business travel industry is still affected by discounting and difficulties in filling space over weekends. Queens Moat Houses is trying to promote weekend business conferences which include a social event like a dinner and dance to encourage delegates to bring their spouces.

The total dividend for the year has been increased almost 10 per cent to 1.333p. Mr Bairstow said this dividend would be paid this year on the enlarged capital. The shares rose 1p to 45p on the news.

BioTechnica raises £1.8m to fight pollution

A company which believes it can tackle environmental pollution by using biotechnology and microtechnology techniques has raised £1.8m from institutional investors.

Biotechnica has three programmes to exploit the commercial use of "microbial communities" to reduce pollution from chemical and other waste procucts; to produce methane from landfill rubbish tips; and to improve the productivity of various agricultural and forestry projects.

Biotechnica, which was established in 1982 after negotiations between two British scientists and BioTechnica International of Massachusettes, is setting up a laboratory in Cardiff. The cash was raised by the English Association trust through placing 48 per cent of the shares with institutions at £1.2m plus £600,000 of convertible preference shares.

The two scientists are Professor Howard Slater, of University of Wales Institute of Technology, and Dr Richard Le Page, of Cambridge University. BioTechnica will collaborate closely with the United States company.

APPOINTMENTS

London Gold Futures Market names chief

The London Gold Futures Market: Mr Robert Beale is the new chairman. The new board members are Mr P. G. Smith and Mr J. P. A. Wolff, London Metal Exchange representatives, and Mr J. A. Spall, representing the London Gold Market. They replace Mr C. J. B. Green, Mr J. K. Lion and Mr M. Robarts who have retired Mr R. D. Gee and Mr K. Smith reamin on the board.

Standard Chartered Merchant Bank: Mr J. E. Lynn, Mr J. E. Turner and Mr S. F. Westmacott have become senior assistant directors. Mr G. A. Bootham, Mr W. H. Dinning, Mr M. H. Gidney, Mr J. W. Gratwhick, Mr D. J. Holness, Mr C. J. J. Lawrence and Mr M. G. Thresh were appointed assistant directors.

Bradbury Wilkinson: Mr Clive Bradly has joined as deputy chairman and group chief executive, and Mr Bernard Green as group financial director.

David Sheppard & Partners: Mr A. B. X. Fenwich has joined the board.

Cow & Gate: Mr Leonard Osborn has been appointed British sales director.

Chandos Insurance Company: Mr David Hart has become assistant general manager.

Jamesbury: Mr Arthur Kettle has been appointed managing director. Mr Bill Perry becomes director of engineering and Mr Joe Paparella becomes chairman.

Jardine Thompson Graham: Mr A. C. Liddle is to retire as a director and managing director of the non-marine division. Mr A. J. Gordon, a director of the companay, has been appointed managing director of the non-marine division in successon. Mr S. C. Smapson will become a director and managing director of the marine division.

Victoria Wine Company: Mr Eric Colwell has been appointed chairman, succeeding Mr Michael Jackaman.

Geoffrey Morley & Partners: Mr N. Pilkington succeeds Mr C. G. Morley as chairman. Mr Morley remains of the board.

County Bank: The following have been appointed assistant directors: Mr Steven Grundy and Mr Simon Miller – marketing group of business development; Mr Peter Binder and Mr Nicholas Wells of the corportate advisory division; Mr Garry Frier and Mr Stephen White of the finance division and Mr Michael Wickham of the international division.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

● **BURNETT & HOLDINGS:** Burnett's Mining Division parent company, the Mining Investment Corporation, ("Mincorp") has set up a new subsidiary – Mincorp Trading – to handle Mincorp's international coal trading operations within Europe, North Africa and the Near East.

● **PRESTWICH PARKER HOLDINGS:** Board has decided to dispose of its subsidiary, Prestwich Parker (Fasteners) by June 30 the end of its financial year. If it is not sold by that date, manufacturing will cease. Total group profit for the six months ended December 31 1983 was £128,264, after charging trading losses of £101,234 by Preswich Parker (Fastners) in the four months to October 31.

● **ATLANTIC RESOURCES:** Shareholders approved share split at a general meeting, Directors refused to comment on rumours about the offshore Waterford appraisal well.

● **BIOTECHNICA PLACING:** The English Association Trust has raised £1.8m for Biotechnica through the subscription by leading financial institutions of £1.2m for ord. shares representing 48 per cent of the equity, and £600,000 for pref. shares.

● **EATON CORP:** Eaton Corp. has acquired the Bunker Ramo electronic systems division from Allied Corpn. The transaction includes all the division's businesses, with the exception of the antisubmarine warfare product line.

● **BR. LAND CO-CONRAD RITBLAT:** British Land has completed the reorganization of its interest in Conrad Ritblat.

● **KAKUZI SALE OF INTEREST:** Company has sold its 14.04 per cent interest in Credit Finance Corp. for Kenyan

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	8½%
Barclays	8¾%
BCCI	8½%
Citibank Savings †	9¾%
Consolidated Crds	8¾%
Continental Trust	9%
C. Hoare & Co	*8½%
Lloyds Bank	8½%
Midland Bank	8½%
Nat Westminster	8½%
TSB	8½%
Williams & Glyn's	8½%

† Mortgage Base Rate.

* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000, 5¾%; £10,000 up to £50,000, 6¼%; £50,000 and over, 7¼%.

Scottish Life Investments

INSURANCE FUNDS

Net	Bid	Offer
Managed	98.8	104.1
Property	95.2	100.2
UK Equity	99.8	105.1
American	98.2	103.5
Pacific	105.0	110.6
European	98.5	103.7
International	101.7	106.6
Fixed Interest	95.3	100.4
Index Linked	97.8	103.0
Deposit	95.4	100.5
Gross	**Bid**	**Offer**
Pen Managed	99.5	104.9
Pen Property	95.4	100.5
Pen UK Equity	100.9	106.3
Pen American	98.9	104.2
Pen Pacific	106.8	112.5
Pen European	99.2	104.5
Pen Int	102.3	107.7
Pen Fixed Int	95.2	100.4
Pen Index Ltd	95.3	103.6
Pen Deposit	95.7	100.9

Scottish Life
19 St Andrew Square · Edinburgh
Telephone: 031-225 2211

SUN ALLIANCE INSURANCE GROUP

SUN ALLIANCE AND LONDON INSURANCE plc

The audited results for 1983 are as follows:

	1983	1982
Premium Income	£m	£m
General Insurance	884.8	789.9
Long-term Insurance	294.3	208.0
	1,179.1	997.9
General Insurance Underwriting Result	(67.4)	(70.9)
Long-term Insurance Profits	8.5	7.0
Investment Income	131.3	119.9
Other Income	1.0	0.8
PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION	73.4	56.8
Taxation	26.3	20.3
PROFIT AFTER TAXATION	47.1	36.5
Minority Interests	1.1	0.5
PROFIT ATTRIBUTABLE TO SHAREHOLDERS	46.0	36.0
DIVIDEND	27.6	23.7
PROFIT RETAINED	18.4	12.3
EARNINGS PER SHARE	93.3p	73.0p
DIVIDEND PER SHARE	56.0p	48.0p

TERRITORIAL ANALYSIS OF GENERAL INSURANCE RESULTS

	1983 Premium Income £m	1983 Underwriting Result £m	1982 Premium Income £m	1982 Underwriting Result £m
United Kingdom & Ireland	421.8	(7.0)	362.3	(12.9)
Europe	90.5	(9.1)	90.8	(11.1)
U.S.A.	109.8	(11.8)	87.0	(11.4)
Canada	36.4	(0.5)	36.8	(7.2)
Australia	35.8	(9.1)	34.3	(10.1)
Other Overseas	71.4	(1.5)	59.8	(2.3)
Reinsurance	43.0	(28.4)	45.7	(14.2)
Marine & Aviation (worldwide)	76.1	–	73.2	(1.7)
	884.8	(67.4)	789.9	(70.9)

UNDERWRITING RESULTS

General business premium income increased by 12.0%. Excluding the effect of changes in exchange rates the increase was 10.4%.

At Home, marginal underwriting surpluses were achieved in the commercial property and household accounts but there was a further deterioration in motor experience.

In Europe results improved in Denmark and Germany but there were increased underwriting losses in Belgium and Holland.

Results in the U.S.A. were adversely affected by severe weather losses and by further strengthening in reserves for medical malpractice claims.

In Canada claims experience was unusually favourable and the property and automobile accounts showed substantially improved results despite some deterioration in the final quarter.

As reported at the half year, the Australian result was seriously affected by the cost of the February bush fires which largely offset the improvement in workers' compensation business.

The heavy loss on inwards reinsurance business reflects the highly unsatisfactory state of the reinsurance market and action already taken to curtail our reinsurance operations is expected to reduce the level of losses in the future.

LONG-TERM INSURANCE

Life and pensions business in the U.K. enjoyed a very successful year. New annual premiums rose by 127% to £48m and single premiums by 69% to £49m.

Shareholders' profits increased by 21% to £8.5m.

INVESTMENTS

Investment income rose by 9.5%. The growth, allowing for changes in exchange rates, was 7.1%.

The Group's solvency margin again benefited from rising stock markets and at the end of the year was 125%.

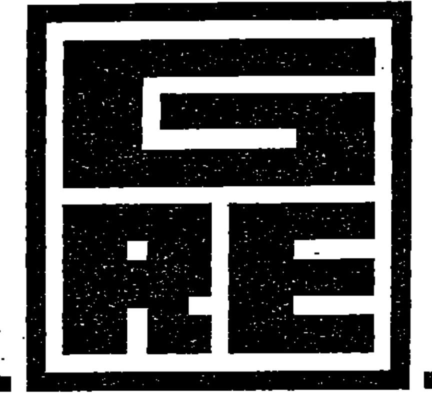
DIVIDEND AND SHARE CAPITAL

The Directors have resolved to declare at the Annual General Meeting on 16th May, 1984 a total dividend of 56.0p per £1 share in respect of the year 1983. An interim dividend of 22.0p per share was paid on 5th January, 1984 and the final dividend of 34.0p per share will be paid on 5th July next.

It is proposed to sub-divide the £1 shares into 25p shares at an Extraordinary General Meeting following immediately after the Annual General Meeting and if this proposal is approved by shareholders the final dividend will be paid at the rate of 8.5p per 25p share.

The above statement is a summary of the year's results. The full Report and Accounts, which contain an unqualified Report of the Auditors, will be posted to shareholders on 19th April, 1984 and delivered to the Registrar of Companies after the Annual General Meeting.

4th April, 1984.



Results for 1983

Subject to audit the results of Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance plc for the year ended 31st December, 1983 are as follows:

	1983 £m	1982 £m
Investment Income	178.5	166.3
Less Interest Payable	11.0	11.2
	167.5	155.1
Underwriting Results		
Short-term (Fire, Accident and Marine)	(63.5)	(66.1)
Long-term	18.1	17.2
	(45.4)	(48.9)
Profit before taxation	122.1	106.2
Less taxation	51.6	43.3
Profit after taxation	70.5	62.9
Less Preference dividend and Minority Interests	3.6	3.6
Profit after taxation available to Ordinary shareholders	66.9	59.3
Ordinary Dividends		
Interim 7.75p per share	12.2	11.0
Proposed Final 15.25p per share	23.9	19.6
Total 23.00p per share (1982: 19.50p)	36.1	30.6
Profit transferred to Retained Profits	£30.8m	£28.7m
Earnings per Ordinary share (after taxation)	42.6p	37.7p

Results by Territories (before taxation)

	1983 Net Premiums £m	1983 Underwriting Result £m	1983 Investment Income £m	1982 Net Premiums £m	1982 Underwriting Result £m	1982 Investment Income £m
Australia	89.3	0.4	11.6	68.6	(1.6)	8.5
Canada	80.9	(5.2)	13.5	71.3	(8.3)	12.0
Germany	150.5	(6.7)	18.7	143.9	(4.6)	17.2
Republic of Ireland	19.5	(4.2)	4.7	23.2	(4.6)	3.8
South Africa	41.0	(0.7)	4.6	37.5	0.1	4.3
U.K.	389.0	(26.7)	77.1	378.4	(29.1)	73.7
U.S.A.	113.2	(10.7)	9.3	74.7	(5.7)	9.2
Miscellaneous	158.5	(9.7)	28.0	169.4	(12.3)	26.4
	1,041.9	(63.5)	167.5	967.0	(66.1)	155.1

The territorial results are stated after reinsurance protection from group companies including protection under the worldwide stop loss arrangements. The 'Miscellaneous' underwriting result includes this reinsurance in respect of the territories shown opposite:

	1983 £m	1982 £m
Australia	(1.9)	0.4
Canada	2.2	(2.7)
South Africa	0.5	1.2
Others	(1.9)	0.6
	(1.1)	(0.5)

Exchange Rates

	1983	1982		1983	1982		1983	1982
Australia	1.61	1.65	Germany	3.96	3.85	South Africa	1.77	1.74
Canada	1.81	1.99	Rep. of Ireland	1.28	1.16	U.S.A.	1.45	1.62

The pre-tax profits are the highest ever achieved by the Group and show an increase for the fourth successive year.

Despite difficult trading conditions there is a marginally lower underwriting loss when compared with 1982. Canada and the United Kingdom produced lower underwriting losses and small underwriting profits were made in Australia, France, Cameroun, Pakistan, the Middle East, Sierra Leone and Zimbabwe.

Cash flow was affected particularly by the underwriting experience in the United Kingdom and investment income advanced at a reduced pace.

The declaration of a special bonus on certain policies issued by Guardian Assurance plc, the shareholders' proportion of which amounted to £4.0m, has contributed to record profits from long-term business.

Written premiums and investment income have increased by 7.7% and 8.0% respectively. During 1983 sterling has weakened against the dollar in Australia, Canada and the United States, but strengthened against most other currencies; in local currency terms, written premium growth was 6.8% and investment income growth was 6.7%.

The amount shown for taxation reflects the proposals announced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in the Budget on 13th March, 1984 and includes an increased provision for deferred taxation.

To assist in the future development of the Group the creation of a holding company is being considered.

Dividend

The Directors recommend the payment of a final dividend which, with the interim dividend paid in January 1984, will constitute an increase of 17.9% compared with the dividend paid in respect of the year 1982.

If approved at the Annual General Meeting to be held on 30th May, 1984 a payment at the rate of 15.25p per share (gross equivalent 21.79p) in respect of the final dividend will be made on 3rd July, 1984 to holders of Ordinary shares whose names appear on the register at 3 p.m. on 1st June, 1984 making, with the interim payment in January last, a total of 23.00p (1982: 19.5p) per share (gross equivalent 32.86p; 1982: 27.86p).

The audited Annual Report and Accounts will be posted to shareholders on 3rd May, 1984 and subsequently delivered to the Registrar of Companies.

Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance plc
Royal Exchange London EC3V 3LS

Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance
An insurance service worldwide

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Index-linked gilts brighten quietest day of the year

By Derek Pain

Inflation gilts stole what was a lack lustre City show yesterday. As markets endured their quietest day of the year the index-linked stocks, now increasingly the haven for the Armageddon school of stockbroking thought moved ahead.

Gains throughout the spread of maturities were as high as £1, and the Government Broker was able to reestablish his double top long tap (Treasury 2½ per cent 2020) at 89½, just 2½ points below his original price. Cooler minds estimate that the authorities still have £350m of the tap on the book, and ascribe the index-linked spurt to a two-way hedge by the

Kunick, the old rag trade business that Sir Fred Pontin, the former holiday camp tycoon, and Mr Donald Robinson, chairman of Hull City Football Club, are grooming for a share listing, is now being traded under the rule 163 facility. First price was 24p and there seems a determined queue of potential buyers. The shares of what is now a leisure group are expected to be accorded either a full or an Unlisted Securities Market listing in the next few months.

market on the outcome of the miners' strike. If the miners win, the Government will not be achieved overnight.

London is still waiting too for the Federal Reserve Board to give some clues to US bond markets. The overnight announcement of $1.5 billion of customer repurchases disappointed American bond dealers now laden with stock after last week's auction and hoping for official help to absorb the burden.

With the long bond yielding more than 12½ per cent, and Fed funds, at close on 11 per cent, trading in line with the long-term cost of money, attention is focused on the spread between the discount rate, 8½ per cent, and Fed funds. At more than two points, the spread demonstrates to some that the Fed is watching its back relative to Washington, although in early 1981, the spread widened to seven points. That however, was before the Budget deficit started climbing.

Conventional stocks, however, although a shade firmer after houses, spent the day drifting aimlessly.

Besides the American inspired worries and the miners it was end of tax year considerations which had the deepest impact on equities, draining any lingering enthusiasm from the market which, after its hectic progress over 900, is now looking uncertain.

The *FT* 30 share index, at 857.8 points, was down 1.4 points. Only at the first call over was it showing a gain, a modest 0.6 points. It was the fourth day in succession that the index fell.

With the next account covering three weeks - rarely an inspiration to trading - many market men are now woefully contemplating that adage: "Sell in May and go away".

Of the leaders, **British Petroleum**, offered some encouragement, ahead of the yearly report and accounts due tomorrow. Even so, the early 10p gain in the shares was trimmed to 6p at 481p, partly due to the general malaise.

Shares of Andre De Brett, the mail order house, were floated on the stock market the day the General Belgrano was sunk in the South Atlantic. They were placed at 60p hit 82p and now languish at 28p on nagging fears about the company's trading performance. profits fell last year to £555.000 and the stockbrokers Margetts and Addenbrooke consider they should be about £500.000 for the year just ended, which would represent a further decline. But on such a projection the company made progress in the second half of the year and with its Florida shopping precinct up for sale it should be able to cut its interest bill. Assuming a maintained dividend, the shares are selling on anear 13 per cent dividend yield

Blue Circle was another to produce a plus mark. Here again the gain was partly eroded, with the price finishing 7p higher at 415p.

Turner and Newall, helped by an investment seminar, rose 3p to 92p and **Molins**, the tobacco machinery group which recorded disappointing figures early this week, improved on suggestions that a stockbroker's meeting was being arranged.

The appearance of Saint Piran, the vehicle of the financier Mr Jim Raper, at **Wiggins Group**, the estate developer, was not, at least initially, good for the shares. A disclosure that Saint Piran had acquired a 6 per cent shareholding left the price 6p down at 66p.

But **Weber**, the investment group where Mr David Bulstrode's Wellington Estates has gained control and mounted a bid for the rest of the capital, continued to forge ahead. The shares rose £1.50 to £11.50.

Mr Michael Ashcroft's Hawley Group gained 2p to 81p after it was announced that the heavy rights issue (seven-for-20 at 80p a share) had been taken up by shareholders representing only 72.5 per cent of the shares offered. There has been fears that this cash raising exercise would be an even greater flop. The balance was sold in the market at a premium of just 0.07587p over the rights price.

Rubber shares enjoyed support, led by Inch Kenneth which jumped 67p to 725p on its estates sale.

Oils had a mixed session with **Petranol** continuing to find support, up 20p to 256p. But

Atlantic Resources again caused their followers anxiety as, in their new slimmed-down version, the shares fell 10p to 48p.

The cheerful statement at Tuesday's annual meeting continued to cheer the advertising agent **Saatchi and Saatchi** up 8p at 670p. But figures from **Pritchard Service Group** and **Copydex** failed to offer any comfort. Pritchard fell 5½p to 124½p and Copydex lost 14p at 146p.

Moben was another to suffer from profit reaction, losing 2p to 19p.

Elsewhere, **Lec Refrigeration** came in for a speculative run, rising 18p to 378p.

With the Hongkong market closed, the colony's London traded shares achieved modest gains. And **Cable and Wireless**, which is closely linked to the colony, recovered 8p to 351p.

Bank shares fell in with the dismal market mood, recording another poor day. All the big four were marked lower. Merchant banks, too, lost ground but among financials that star

Sheppards and Chase, the stockbroker, appears to have scored the City version of an "own goal". It kicked off shares of Tottenham Hotspur, the only fully quoted football club, at 100p in October. They are now at a 72p low, having fallen a further 4p since the decision to leave by Mr Keith Burkenshaw, the manager, was announced on Monday.

of yesteryear, **First Naational Finance Corporation**, responded to take over hopes, gaining 2p to 76½p. **European Ferries** hardened 1p to 90p on the Singer and Friedlander sale to **Britannia Arrow**, 1p lower at 82p.

D J Alarms slumped on the failure of take over talks and Gifer, the microcomputer marker, tumbled 21p to 70p on what was said to be a badly handled selling order.

Hartons, the plastic sheeting group, continued to reach new highs after its 400 per cent profit advance. The shares touched 50p making a 7p gain since Tuesday's announcement.

Ladbroke Group eased 1p to 229p. The stockbroking firm L Messel regards the shares as a hold. It says that prospects remain bright and forecast profits for the year £47m against the £41.8m announced for last year.

Steam group profits rise £2.4m

Spirax-Sarco Engineering, a world leader in design and manufacture of equipment for control and use of steam, yesterday reported pretax profits for the year to December 31 last up from £8.5m to £10.9m.

But the jump disguised a slightly static performance in Britain. On a turnover up from £47.8m to £59.1m, trading profits from the United Kingdom operations were £4.6m against £4.1m. The new North American acquisitions contributed more than £2m against nothing last time. Profits from other overseas operations were barely changed at £3.4m.

The group has put aside £1.5m as deferred tax on capital allowance changes in the Budget. The total dividend payment for the year is up 14 per cent to 5.7p and the shares rose 10p to 178p.

In brief

● **BRITISH MOHAIR HOLDINGS:** Results for 1983. Turnover £31.16m (£25.76m). Pretax profit £3.52m (£1.95m). Total dividend 4.65p (4.2p).

● **LONDON & PROVINCIAL SHOP CENTRES (HOLDINGS):** Half-year to Dec 25, 1983. Pretax profit £905,000 (£508,000). Year's profits estimated at about £1.85 (£1.41m last time). Interim payment raised by a third to 1p a share: board proposes to raise final by a similar amount, indicating a total of 4p (3).

● **MOBEN GROUP:** Year to Dec 31, 1983 (compared with previous 16 months): Turnover £67.17m (£71.26m). Pretax profit £446,000 (£2.35m). First half of current year will show a loss. Dividend 0.5p (0.25p).

● **BUSINESS COMPUTER SYSTEMS:** Turnover for 1983 £8.47m (£7.5m). Pretax profit £502,000 (£510,000). Dividend 1p net (same).

● **CAMFORD ENGINEERING:** Omes-Faulkners now owns 1.27 million shares (7.05 per cent of the capital) in Camford.

● **PITTARD GROUP:** Mr Neil Wood, chairman, reports in his annual statenebt that the board expects increased sales and profit for the current year.

● **MELLERWARE INTERNATIONAL:** Mr John Meller, chairman, says in his annual report that sales and the order book are significantly higher for the first quarter than in the similar period of 1983.

● **A. BECKMAN:** Half-year to Dec. 31, 1983. Turnover £7.24m (£6.9m). Pretax profit £735,000 (£533,000). Interim dividend 1.95p (same).

TEMPUS

Caution knocks the wind from insurance shares

Composite insurance shares tumbled faster than the rest of the market yesterday after uninspiring results from three leading insurance companies.

Results from Phoenix Assurance, Guardian Royal Exchange and Sun Alliance were broadly in line with expectations.

The windfall benefit from the introduction of the Miras (mortgage intersst relief at source) method of paying mortgages, which encouraged people to take out insurance-linked mortgages, provided an expected boost to company income.

There was also some improvement in the general underwriting climate with losses curtailed in Britain, and Australian and European markets looking better. This was countered by intense competition on British motor lines and continuing problems in the United States.

However, the key to waning confidence in the sector, which has been riding high on bid hopes in recent weeks, was the cautious view taken of trading prospects in the current year.

None of the companies was prepared to stick its neck out on the prospects for an upturn in world insurance markets this year.

There also appeared to be little concern about the vulnerability of the companies to takeover by US predators said to be lurking in the wings.

The two strongest performers, Phoenix and GRE managed respective increases of 17 and 18 per cent in their 1983 dividends, against a market average of about 15 per cent for the year, which gave little indication that the companies expected either a dramatic boost in trading fortunes, or to protect themselves against takeover.

However, GRE's decision to establish a holding company to give it more freedom to diversify from its traditional dependence on insurance into financial services suggests some response to the changing climate. By following the Prudential in taking the holding company route, GRE seems to be preparing to go on the offensive, rather than remain a sitting target for takeover.

ABP

The solid and consistent progress which has once agan been shown by Associated Book Publishers not only reflects the company's stability, but also demonstrates one of its frustrations brought about by its unusual share structure.

A substantial 39 per cent is held by trustees on behalf of Mr Antony Crostwaite Eyre, an ABP director, to look after the interests of his children. This single holding provides a stumbling block to the company's prospects for expansion through acquisition.

At a time when publishing companies have been avidly buying up the comptition, ABP has had to sit quiely frustrated on the sidelines. It was interested in the Tolley's publishing operations which eventually went to Benn Brothers but could not compete on cash terms and was reluctant to issue shares as part of any consideration because of the potential implications of diluting the trustees' 39 per cent holding.

The positive side of this shareholding is that any prospective ABP buyer would be obliged to woo the trustees, who for the time being, are more than satisfied.

The performance is not spectacular but it is steady. This year's profit has been struck after another £400,000 investment in new technology, which completes its computerized storage of law text, and in a year in which it did not have the £250,000 guaranteed profits from two legal publications which appear two years in every three.

ABP is still investing heavily in establishing presence in the US.

This has cost about £2.5m sofar will not fully materialize for another five years. Even with these disadvantages, the company still increased profit before tax and the results sent the shares up 10p to a high for the year of 313p.

CCF

The meteoric rise of Consultants (Computer & Financial), which was brought to the Unlisted Securities Market at 89p three years ago and has been as high as 915p, will be tempered shortly by the share split and four-for-one scrip issue which will improve supply.

Tos 1983 results, announced last month, demonstrated that, in profit and loass terms it is going from strength to strength, with turnover up by about 50 per cent and pretax profit quadrupled.

The balance sheet, however, presents a different picture. CCF has net assets of £796,000, yet is has debtors of £802,000 which have increased during the year as a reflection of increased trading. Creditors have fallen by more than £100,000, and cash balances are down by £180,000. It all points to a need to look carefully at control of working capital in the current year, when expansion is expected to cintinue at an even more forocious pace. The shares were down 20p yesterday to 810p.

MONEY MARKETS

London discount market yesterday took a very relaxed view of a shortage that finally reached £600m.

It had in mind the Bank of England's recent policy of providing early assistance which kept the system moving and prevented the necessity to pay up for money during the morning. It also noted a shift in sentiment, prompted by rising US interest rates and a weakening pound, that showed the houses far more willing to sell paper on to the authorities.

Period rates continued firm in reflection of rising interest rates across the Atlantic.

Although the level of business was not great, sterling certificates of deposit dealers reported seeing more selling than of late, particulary of paper from three months out.

Interbank, overnight money opened at 8⅝-½ per cent, but fell swiftly to 8 per cent on the success of the Bank's early intervention. The rate was down to about 7½-7 per cent before the late assistance, and final business was transacted within the 6 per cent to 3 per cent range.

Local authorities were interested only at the very short end of the market.

Dollar rates edged higher behind the rise in the federal funds rate and a rise in a broker loan rate to 11½ per cent overnight.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Another stronger day for the dollar yesterday closed with it easing from the highs, and sterling making moderate progress against it. Both currencies finished a touch better against the Continentals. The pound gained 20 points on the dollar at 1.4330 and added 0.2 to its trade-weighted index to 79.9.

Dealers said the dollar's strengh was attributed to the outlook for higher US interest rates spurred on by the federal funds rate opening at 10⅞.

The dollar was just 70 points stronger against the Deutsche mark at the close on 2.6170. It gained 2½ centimes on the French franc at 8.05, a centime against the Swiss franc at 2.1705 and 65 points on the Yen at 225.25.

Closing near the high against most currencies, sterling stayed on the sidelines for much of the day, but gained 1¼ pfennigs against the Deutsche mark at 3.75, improved 3 ½ centimes against the French franc at 11.5250 and 1½ centimes on the Swiss franc at 3.11. It also pushed the Yen slightly weaker at 323 (321.75).

Battle over Hawley rights issue

By William Kay
City Editor

The underwriters have had to earn their fees over the £34m rights issue by Hawley Group, the diversified industrial business headed by Mr Michael Ashcroft.

Yesterday the company said that 32.1 million of the 44.2 million shares on offer had been taken up by shareholders. This has left 12.1 million or 27.5 per cent, of the issue in the hands of the underwriters.

The unwanted balance has been sold on the stock market at a premium of 0.07587p a share, after expenses. The net proceeds will be distributed to shareholders who gave up their rights. The issue was made at the rate of one new share for every 20 already held, at a price of 80p.

Since it was announced on March 8, Hawley's market price has fallen from 93p to below 80p, making it more attractive to buy in the market than to take up the rights.

WALL STREET

Prices go higher at opening

	Apr 3	Apr 2
AMF Inc	13¾	13¾
AMR	33¾	34½
Allied Chem	50⅞	50⅞
Allied Stores	41¼	40¾
Allis Chalmers	13¼	12⅞
Alcoa	38¾	38¾
Amax Inc	26½	26½
Amerada Hess	30¾	31¼
Am Brands	54¼	54¾
Am Broadcast	58¾	58⅞
Am Can	45¾	46¼
Am Cyanamid	47½	47¼
Am Elec Power	16⅛	16¼
Am Home	52⅞	52⅞
Am Motors	4⅞	5
Am Nat Res	48¾	48
Am Standard	27⅞	27⅞
Am Telephone	15⅞	15½
Armco Steel	20	20¼
Asarco	31¼	32¾
Ashland Oil	27	27¼
Atlantic Richfield	45⅝	46⅞
Avco	25⅞	25
Avon Products	21¼	21
Bankers Tst NY	42⅞	42½
Bank of America	19⅞	20⅛
Bank of Boston	35¾	36
Bank of NY	29	29
Beatrice Foods	31	31¼
Bethlehem Steel	26⅞	27¼
Boeing	37	37¾
Boise Cascade	41	40¼
Borden	53⅞	54½
Borg Warner	19½	19¾
Bristol Myers	45⅞	45⅞
BP	27	27⅞
Burlington Ind	27⅞	27⅛
Burlington Nthn	42⅞	43½
Burroughs	49⅞	50
Campbell Soup	62	60⅞
Canadian Pacific	33½	34⅞
Caterpillar	50⅝	51¼
Celanese	70¼	69¼
Central Soya	15¼	15¼
Chase Manhat	48⅞	49
Chem Bank NY	44½	45⅞
Chrysler	26⅞	25⅞
Citicorp	34¼	34¼
Clark Equip	34½	34½
Coca Cola	55	54⅞
Colgate	22	22⅞
CBS	70⅛	70⅜
Columbia Gas	28¾	28¾
Combustion Eng	29⅞	29⅞
Comwlth Edison	21½	22¼
Cons Edison	22⅞	23⅞
Cons Foods	25	27⅞
Cons Power	8⅞	8⅞
Continental Grp	33⅞	33½
Control Data	36½	36⅞
Corning Glass	66	66¼
CPC Intnl	36½	36⅞
Crane	33⅞	32⅞
Crocker Int	26½	27
Crown Zeller	38¼	37
Dart & Kraft	73	72¾
Deere	33¼	33½
Delta Air	33⅞	36½
Detroit Edison	13½	13⅞
Disney	63⅞	64⅞
Dow Chemical	31	31¼
Dresser Ind	21½	21½
Duke Power	28⅞	24
Du Pont	48¼	48¼
Eastern Air	5⅞	6
Eastman Kodak	64	65⅞
Eaton Corp	47⅞	47⅞
Esmark	41¼	42¼
Evans P. D.	6⅞	6½
Exxon Corp	38⅞	38⅞
Fed Dept Stores	47⅞	47⅞
Firestone	17⅞	17½
Fst Chicago	22⅞	22

	Apr 3	Apr 2
Fst Interst Bncp	38¼	38¼
Fst Penn Corp	6⅞	6⅞
Ford	36⅞	36½
GAF Corp	16⅞	15⅞
GTE Corp	38⅞	38⅞
Gen Dynamics	45⅞	46
Gen Electric	53⅞	54
Gen Foods	45⅞	46
Gen Mills	48⅞	49⅞
Gen Motors	63⅞	64
Gen Pub Util NY	6⅞	6⅞
Gen Tire	32⅞	32½
Genesco	6⅞	6⅞
Georgia Pacific	24	24¼
Getty Oil	127½	127¼
Gillette	47⅞	47⅞
Goodrich	32⅞	32⅞
Goodyear	26⅞	26¼
Gould Inc	28⅞	28
Grace	42	40⅞
Gt Atlic & Pacific	14⅛	14½
Greyhound	23⅞	24¼
Grumman Corp	22⅞	22¼
Gulf Oil	77⅞	77⅞
Gulf & West	31½	31½
Heinz H J.	33½	34⅞
Hercules	36⅞	35
Honeywell	58⅞	58
IC Inds	45⅞	46
Ingersoll	49⅞	49⅞
Inland Steel	27½	27⅞
IBM	111¼	112
Int Harvester	8⅞	8⅞
INCO	14¼	14¼
Int Paper	53⅞	53⅞
Int Tel Tel	41	41
Irving Bank	37⅞	37⅞
Jewel Co	48⅞	47⅞
Jim Walter	34½	34¼
Johnson & John	35⅞	35⅞
Kaiser Alumin	17⅞	17⅞
Kerr McGee	31	30⅞
Kimberly Clark	90⅞	90½
K Mart	30⅞	30⅞
Kroger	30¼	30½
LTV Corp	17	17⅞
Litton	62	62
Lockheed	32⅞	33
Lucky Stores	18⅞	18½
Manuf Hanover	34⅞	34⅞
Manville Cp	9⅞	10¼
Mapco	26½	26⅞
Marine Midland	23¼	23⅞
Martin Marietta	33⅞	33½
McDonnell	50¼	50¼
Mead	37⅞	37⅞
Merck	95	93¼
Minnesota Mng	70½	70⅞
Mobil Oil	30⅞	30¼
Monsanto	89⅞	88⅞
Morgan J. P.	67⅞	67¼
Motorola	115½	115⅞
NCR Corp	109	109
NL Industries	16⅞	16⅞
Nabisco	41⅜	41⅞
Nat Distillers	26⅞	27⅞
Nat Med Ent	20½	20⅞
Norfolk South	58⅞	58⅞
NW Bancorp	30¼	31
Occidental Pet	33⅞	32⅞
Ogden	29⅞	29⅞
Olin Corp	29	29
Owens-Illinois	36⅞	36¼
Pacific Gas Elec	12⅞	13⅞
Pan Am	6⅞	6⅞
Penney J. C.	50½	50⅞
Pennzoil	37⅞	38
Pepsico	37⅞	38
Pfizer	34⅞	33⅞
Phelps Dodge	26⅞	25⅞
Philip Morris	67⅞	67⅞
Phillips Petrol	41	41⅛
Polaroid	26½	27⅞

	Apr 3	Apr 2
PPG Ind	29½	29⅞
Proctor Gamble	47⅞	47⅞
Pub Ser El & Gas	20⅞	20⅞
Raytheon	37⅞	38½
RCA Corp	33	32⅞
Republic Steel	30⅞	30⅞
Reynolds Ind	56⅞	57⅞
Reynolds Metal	34⅞	35
Rockwell Int	23⅞	23
Royal Dutch	52	53⅞
Safeways	34⅞	34½
St Regis Paper	39½	39⅞
SFE Sopac	24⅞	24⅞
SCM	37⅞	37⅞
Schlumberger	53⅞	52⅞
Scott Paper	29⅞	30⅞
Seagram	35⅞	35⅞
Sears Roebuck	32⅞	32½
Shell Oil	57⅞	58⅞
Shell Trans	37½	37
Signal Co	28⅞	28⅞
Singer	24⅞	24⅞
Smithkline Beck	54	53⅞
Sony	16⅛	16½
Sth Cal Edison	35⅛	35⅞
Sperry Corp	40½	40⅞
Std Oil California	37½	37⅞
Std Oil Indiana	56⅞	56⅞
Std Oil Ohio	45⅞	46
Sterling Drug	20⅞	20⅞
Stevens J. P.	18⅞	19
Sun Comp	52⅞	53⅞
Teledyne	155	155⅞
Tenneco	42⅞	41½
Texaco	39¼	39⅞
Texas East Corp	64	64¼
Texas Inst	135	136⅞
Texas Utilities	22⅞	22½
Textron	30¼	31¼
TWA	25	27⅞
Travelers Corp	32⅞	33
TRW Inc	64	65⅞
UAL Inc	32⅞	32⅞
Union Carbide	56⅞	56⅞
Union Oil Calif	37⅞	37⅞
Un Pacific Corp	45⅞	45⅞
Uniroyal	13⅞	13⅞
United Brands	15¼	15⅞
US Industries	21⅛	19⅞
US Steel	30½	30⅞
Utd Technol	62⅛	62⅞
Wachovia	44½	44½
Warner Comms	24⅞	24⅞
Warner Lambert	33⅞	33⅞
Wells Fargo	36⅞	36½
Westinghse Elec	45⅞	44⅞
Weyerhaeuser	30⅞	30½
Whirlpool	38⅞	41
Woolworth	31½	32⅛
Xerox Corp	40⅞	40
Zenith	27⅞	28⅞

Canadian Prices

	Apr 3	Apr 2
Abitibi	26¼	26¼
Alcan Alumin	42⅞	43⅞
Algoma Steel	25¼	25¼
Bell Telephone	28⅞	28⅞
Cominco	53⅞	54
Cons Bathurst	27	26⅞
Gulf Oil	18⅞	18⅞
Hawker/Sid Can	16⅞	16⅞
Imasco	35⅞	35⅞
Imperial Oil	38⅞	38⅞
Int Pipe	37⅞	37⅞
Mass-Fergsn	4⅞	4⅞
Royal Trustco	25½	25½
Seagram	42⅞	43⅞
Steel Co	28⅞	28⅞
Thomson N 'A'	32⅞	33⅞
Walker Hiram	23⅞	23⅞
WCT	14⅞	14⅞

e Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

New York (AP-Dow Jones) – Wall Street prices opened slightly higher yesterday in active trading.

The Dow Jones industrial average, was down 0.62, to 1148.14, shortly after the market opened.

Advances led declines by 454 to 402 among the 1,330 issues traded.

Analysts said the market was likely to drift during the session.

Wall Street investors were confused over the many uncertainties about rates and policy.

The overnight federal funds rate banks charge each other has jumped to the 10⅞ level in the past couple of sessions, sparking speculation that the federal reserve board was tightening credit.

There has also been speculation that the Fed would boost the discount rate it charges member banks for loans because banks have raise their prime lending rate to 11½ per cent.

Selling accelerated in late trading yesterday when US trust and bankers trust raised the rate they charge brokerages for short-term loans to 11½ from 11 per cent.

Analysts expected trading to be restrained during session as investors waited for President Reagan to hold a new conference.

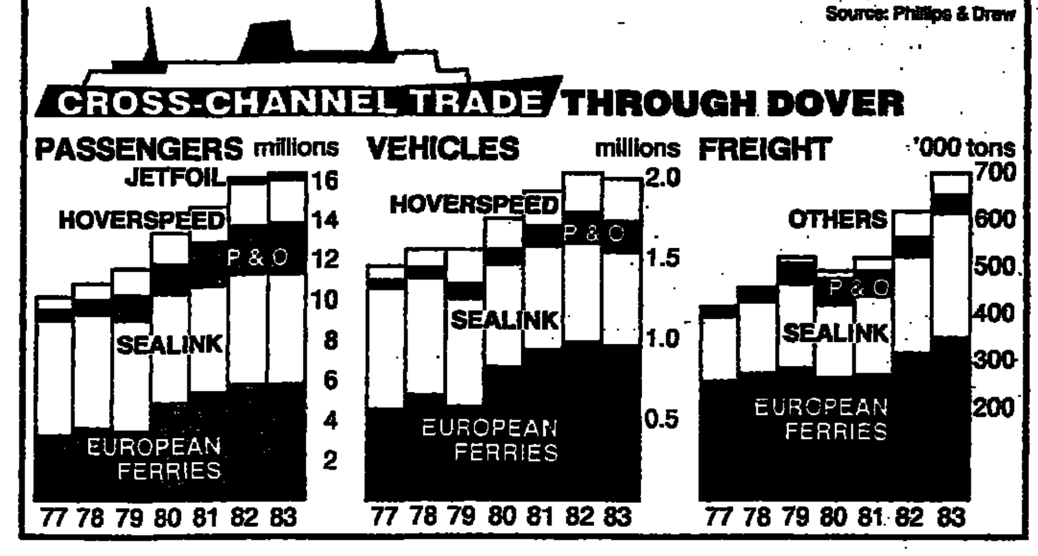
Wall Street was waiting to hear what he had to say about plans to cut the federal budget deficit that is helping keep interest rates high.

Jonathan Davis speculates on who will gain in British Rail's cross-Channel auction

Sealink prepares to set sail under private flag

With two waves of its privatizing wand, the Government has in the last few weeks signalled the start of what could turn out to be a fundamental and far-reaching reshuffle of ownership in Britain's cross-Channel shipping business, the ripples of which will be felt by millions of holidaymakers.

The Government's first step came seven weeks ago when it effectively engineered a management buyout of Hoverspeed, the loss-making hovercraft operation formerly owned jointly by British Rail and the Swedish Brostroms group. Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Transport Secretary, refused to allow British Rail to extend its guarantee of Hoverspeed's £4m overdraft, leaving the way open –v once Brostoms also decided to cut its losses – for a rather surprised management to step into the breach with its own offer, arranged at short notice.



Now the Government has followed up with a more deliberate and long-awaited step, the start of a corporate auction to find a buyer for Sealink, British Ral's ferry and harbour business. About a dozen interested parties have this week been sent a copy of a 50-page confidential memorandum of information about Sealink's activities.

The Government's target is to complete the sale of t whole company as a single unit by the end of June, conveniently in time for the start of this year's July to September peak holiday season.

The history of previous privatization ventures suggests that this target may well prove optimistic. Apart from the natural tendency of deadlines to slip, the National Union of Railwaymen and other unions are threatening to muddy the waters by organizing a campaign of industrial action against the Sealink sale. Even if there are delays, however, there is little doubt that by the end of the year the Government will have finally succeeded in its aim of taking British Rail out of the cross-Channel business, ending an involvement that dates back to nationalization in 1948.

This will be a significant change. Despite the steady erosion of its market share by European Ferries and P & O since the end of the 1970s, British Rail's presence in the cross-Channel market was, taking Sealink and Hoverspeed together, still a substantial one at the start of this year.

On the key Dover routes, for example, which accont for 60 per cent of all Continental traffic, British Rail had more than 40 per cent of both passenger and vehicle traffic last year, according to the stockbroking firm Phillips & Drew. In the freight market, traditionally dominated by European Ferries, Sealink has actually marginally increased its share of the business in the last for years.

Sealink also has extensive ferry interests on other routes. In all, taking into account its pooled operations with SNCF, the French railways and two other Continental operators, it ran 24 routes last year, including services to Ireland, Holland, France, Belgium, the Isle of Wight and the Channel Islands. It also owns seven harbours: Harwich, Folkestone, Newhaven, Fishguard, Holyhead, Heysham and Stranraer.

As with a number of other privatization issues, the Government has drawn back from the most radical options in deciding how to dispose of Sealink. P & O was one group which argued at the time of the blocked European Ferries bid for Sealink four years ago that the best way to stimulate competition in the cross-Channel business was to break Sealink up and dispose of its routes one by one to rival operators.

Others have argued that at the very least the Government should hive off Sealink's ferry and harbour interests as separate businesses.

In the end, Mr Ridley has come down on the side of British Rail – and Sealink's own management – in keeping the company intact, although he did veto British Rail's original plans to keep a minority stake in Sealink as a prelude to an eventual stock market flotation of the company.

On the face of it, considering the Government's repeated declaration that greater competition is the driving thrust behind its privatization programme, the decision to sell Sealink as it is looks odd.

Pragmatic considerations appear to have played a considerable part: in the decision breaking Sealink up would have taken longer to implement, and could well have left the Government with the problem of what to do with some of the less attractive assets which the private sector might not have wanted to buy. An immediate stock market flotation also looked problematical, given Sealink's uneven trading record.

As it is, the impact on the market will clearly vary depending on who the successful bidder turns out to be. Of the five main contenders that have been identified publicly, two – European Ferries and P & O – would clearly result in a concentration rather than a dilution of ownership if their bids succeeded.

The other three, Trafalgar House, Sea Containers and the National Freight Corporation-/James Fisher consortium would introduce an important new force into the market.

The competitive situation is complicated further however by the fact that Trafalgar House has been casting its predatory eye over all three of the main cross-Channel operators, in the last few months. European Ferries as well as Sealink and P & O.

Clearly the bidders all have didfferent motives. Having seen its previous bid blocked, European Ferries must be dubious whether it now will be allowed to succeed. Its interest maybe as much defensive as positive.

P & O, on the other hand, whose ferries have lost money steadily for the last four years, and whose three ships are showing signs of age, the chance

Pretax profits of ferry interests

£m	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
European Ferries	16.7	9.7	1.9	12.8	15.0*
Sealink†	4.7	(3.8)	(11.1)	(6.4)	4.5*
P & O Ferries	n/a	(8.1)	(6.7)	–	0.6
Total	n/a	2.2	(15.9)	6.4	21.5

*†including harbour profits * estimates*

to buy Sealink holds out the prospect of a sudden boost to its cross-Channel fleet at a time when it is still worried about the possibility of a renewed bid from Trafalgar House.

Before the Sealink auction was launched two weeks ago, there was considerable speculation among analysts that Mr Jeffrey Sterling, P & O's chairman, might pull out of cross-channel ferries altogether.

On ideological grounds, the National Freight consortium, which was put together by the merchant bank Charterhouse Japhet, must be regarded as the favourite to win the auction, if only because it has secured the backing of the Sealink management and is promising considerable share ownership incentives to Sealink employees.

The National Freight management buyout two years ago is still regarded by ministers as one of their most successful achievements in the privatization field. The doubt must be whether the consortium can afford the price that other bidders such as Trafalgar House and European Ferries might be prepared to pay.

What is agreed by all the parties concerned is that Sealink, despite its poor record, has considerable potential for profits and earnings growth under new management. In the past, it has suffered from relative neglect at the hands of British Rail's management whose attentions have often been elsewhere.

Whitehall interference and government cash limits have compounded marketing problems and bureaucratic delays in implementing decisions. It was only in 1982, for example, that Sealink finally appointed a marketing director, a surprising omission for a business that depends so heavily on attracting new custom in a competitive market.

Comparisons with European Ferries show that Sealink's record on productivity and performance, while it has improved since the 1981 price war, is still some way behind that of its main competitor. Between 1979 and 1982, for example, sales per employee increased from £19,300 to £25,200, while at European Ferries the comparable figure increased from £26,300 to £37,200.

Although Sealink has by no means been starved of investment for new and more comfortable ships under British Rail, its growth potential will be determined by the amount of new investment, productivity gains and manpower reductions that its new owners can wring out of the business. The market as a whole is still suffering from overcapacity, despite the recent signs of a modest revival in demand.

Higgs and Hill push profits up by 31%

By Ian Griffiths

Higgs and Hill, the international construction and property group, has increased pretax profits for the year to December, 1983, by 31 per cent to £6.061m. It is broadly in line with the directors' predictions when the company made a £5.9m rights issue this year.

The directors have also kept their promise to recommend a final dividend of 7p, giving a total of 11p for the year, a 22 per cent increase on 1982's 9p payout. Even with the increase number of shares – the rights issue was one for four – Mr Brian Hill, the chairman and chief executive, predicted that the dividend would be maintained this year.

The proceeds of the rights issue will be used to expand the company's operating base and could involve acquisitions, particularly on the housing side where Higgs and Hill enjoyed a significant increase in both profit and turnover last year.

Turnover for the group as a whole in 1983 increased by a little over £10m to £169.713m, even though the market conditions remained difficult.

All operating divisions contributed to profit, although the results from the French development companies fell well short of the directors' expectations. The explanation given was a weakness in the French investment market.

Premier in £675,000 buyout

By Jeremy Warner

Premier Drum company of Wigston, near Leicester, which was put into receivership last October owing more than £2m, is being bought back by its management for £675,000 with backing from Midland Bank Industrial Finance and Scottish Allied Investors.

Founded by Albert Della-Porta in 1922, Premier was one of the world's leading manufacturers of percussion instruments including drums, xylophones, tubular bells and cymbals, before it ran into difficulties last year.

In a deal announced yesterday, 10 executives are buying the company from the receiver, Mr Richard Stone, of Cork Gully, Birmingham, for £675,000.

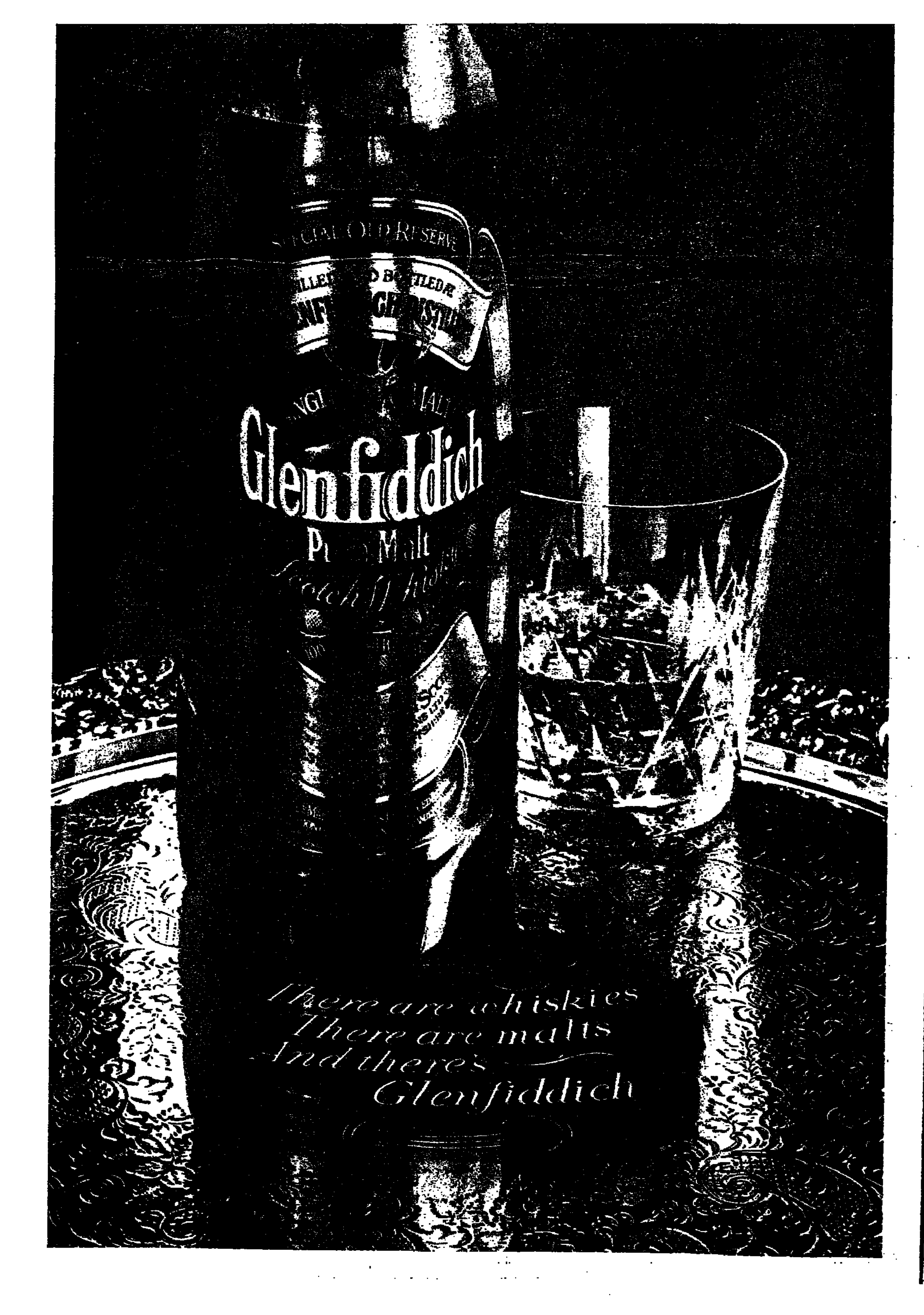
Midlands Bank Industrial Finance and Scottish Allied Investors are supporting the buyout with £70,000 or share capital each. They are also providing £180,000 each in loan stock. The Royal Bank of Scotland will be the company's banker, providing overdraft facilities of £500,000.

Although the buyout team did not have enough money to take control immediately, it will gain it eventually as the company progreses through a special scheme structured by Spicer and Pagler, the chartered accountants.

The company, which numbers The Who, Pink Floyd, Elton John, Status Quo, the London Philharmonic, the USSR State Orchestra and the Coldstream Guards among its customers, intends to rename itself, Premier Percussion to reflect the full range of its products.

Mr Mick McLoughlin, the company's managing director, said: "We have new products in the pipeline and are actively tackling new markets.

"We have made a breakthrough in the American market where the nationwide Drum Corps movement offers great opportunities. We expect to achieve sales of about £4m in our first year and to be a substantial employer in Wigston."



Thorn sheds US lighting business

Thorn EMI Lighting, one of Europe's largest lighting manufacturers, and the North Star Company of Illinois, said yesterday that the Thorn EMI US floodlighting business, including all tooling and American marketing rights, will be transferred to North Star on June 1.

The high intensity discharge product lines include sealed beam metal halide, double ended metal halide, double ended high pressure sodium and low pressure sodium for security and street lighting.

These are at present being produced at Thorn EMI's plant at Fairfield, New Jersey.

Mr Joe Pollock, commercial director of Thorn EMI Lighting, said that his company believed that the US market could be developed more rapidly by North Star, which had a wider product base and sales organization.

Mr Pollock added: "North Star's reputation for producing quality light products and marketing them through a strong national sales organization is respected throughout the industry."

According to Mr Charles P. Currie, president of North Star: "The addition of the Thorn EMI product line provides a wider marketing scope

"These quality specified Thorn EMI products will complement our present capacity of more than 40 lines of commercial, industrial, area and sports lighting products."

The two companies have also entered into an agreement to ensure adequate replacement parts including lamps for present Thorn EMI installations.

Ward White buys £8.7m stake in US group

Ward White, the Tuf shoe company run by Mr Philip Birch, has taken a big stake in Wiener, an American shoe store and clothing company traded on the US over-the-counter market.

Ward White acquired a 44.7 per cent holding by buying out Sander Wiener and Merle Araonson and their families for $12.6m (£8.7m).

Wiener operates four shoe shop chains and "men's and women's apparel" stores in the New Orleans Metropolitan area, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabamba, Texas, Arkansas and Florida.

In the year to January Wiener made profits of £3.2m on a turnover of £35.5m. Net assets are aboout £8m. Ward White's shares come with the rights to dividends of more than £100,000.

The deal is being financed by a medium-term loan

'Good start' at B and P

Mr David Macdonald, chairman of The Bath and Portland Group, said at yesterday's annual meeting: "As far as the current year is concerned we are looking to make further progress, and I am happy to say that so far we are ahead of budget with a particularly good start having been made in our minerals division.

"The position at Meditech is more encouraging with the pre-production machine at Frenchay now performing well both in terms of quality and reliability. This has meant the release to us of a second stage payment."

LASMO optimistic on prices

Mr Geoffrey Searle chairman of London & Scottish Marine Oil, commented in his annual statement yesterday "Prospects for oil and gas prices now appear more favourable than a year ago".

This year, he said, British tax payments will not be so high as last, and cash flow should comfortably exceed the expected £90m caspital expenditure.

The company had established the foundation for continued growth in many parts of the world.

Mr Chris Greentree, chief executive, commenting on exploration in new areas which can yield early profitable production".

He noted "we attracted to areas where profitability is enhanced by a more reasonable tax regime than in the UK".

In brief

● **EUROPEAN BANKING GROUP** yesterday reported a 35 per cent rise in pretax profits to $30.8m (£21.5m) in 1983, its first year of combines operations. The rise was despite higher bad debt provisions against loans to some of the troubled debtor countries. European Banking is a consortium owned by seven banks, including the Midland.

● **GLOBAL NATURAL RESOURCES:** Audited net income for 1983, $1.46m (£1m) or six cents per share (1982, $30.9m or $1.39 per share loss). Oil and gas sales, $41.1m ($36.1m). Income from operations, $1.8m ($22.6m loss).

● **DUNTON GROUP** (USM quote): Half-year to November 30, 1983. Turnover £323,000 (£616,000). Pretax profit £47,000 (£43,000). Mr Alan Sore, chairman, believes second half will be in line with first. Following year, however, will benefit from trebled brick production, sales of the sheltered homes and a full year of operating the waste disposal site.

● **FLOYD OIL PARTICIPATIONS** (USM quote): Half-year to December 31, 1983 (comparison restated). Turnover £310,000 (£120,000). Pretax profit £39,000 (loss £38,000). No dividend (same).

● **ASTBURY & MADELEY (HOLDINGS):** Results for 1983. Turnover £12.46m (£12.27m). Profit, after all charges, £1.35m (£1.21m). Total dividend 5.5p (5p) net share.

● **LONDON AMERICAN ENERGY:** Board of London American Energy Investments has decided to recommend to shareholders that the company be placed into voluntary liquidation. Board will be writing to shareholders shortly to explain reasons.

● **STEINBERG GROUP** has exchanged a conditional contract with partners in Touche Ross and Co, the receivers of Hornsea Pottery, to acquire the Hornsea business for £1.5m and to act as agents for the disposal of specific stocks.

● **BRIGHTON HOTEL DEAL:** A syndicate of four Business Expansion Funds led by Charterhouse J Rothschild, together with ICFC, has invested £3m in a new company, Norfolk Resort Hotel, formed to acquire and develop the Norfolk Continental Hotel, Brighton. The Business Expansion Funds of Charterhouse, Lazards, County Bank and Stewart have acquired 46 per cent of the new company's equity on behalf of their investors. The existing management retains 54 per cent.

● **BRITISH LAND** has completed its £1.4m Blackpool development carried out with Commercial Union. It has been let to J. Hepwarth and Son and Fabricglen at a combined rental of about £70,000 a year. The investment has been purchased by Commercial Union.

● **GISBURNE OFFER:** Banque Paribs, Henderson Crosthwaite and Colegrave Group announce on behalf of the directors of Gisburne Park that applications for 1.25 million ordinary shares offered for subscription have been received and accepted in full.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Shares marked lower

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 26. Dealings End April 6. § Contango Day, April 9. Settlement Day, April 16

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

BRITISH FUNDS

1983/84 High	Low	Stock		Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
SHORTS							
104⅜	100¹¹⁄₁₆	Exch	14½% 1984	100¹¹⁄₁₆	..	13.906	8.250
98	97	Exch	3% 1984	97	..	3.073	14.703
102¾	100⅜	Treas	12% 1984	101⅞	..	11.552	8.112
107⅝	104⅜	Treas	15% 1985	104⅜	..	14.337	9.337
107	101	Exch Cv	13% 1985	102⅜	..	11.721	9.337
94⅞	88¾	Treas	3% 1985	94⅛	..	3.187	8.586
103⅝	99½	Treas	11½% 1985	102¼	..	11.247	9.560
102	95½	Treas C	8¾% 1985	98¾	-⅛	8.861	9.651
104¾	100⅞	Exch	12% 1985	102½	-⅛	11.836	9.836
103⅞	99¼	Exch	11¾% 1986	102⅜	-⅛	11.388	9.831
102¾	98¾	Treas C	10% 1986	100⅜	..	9.926	9.583
90¼	85¼	Treas	3% 1986	88¼	..	3.399	9.234
102	97¼	Exch C	10½% 1986	100¼	..	10.422	10.002
104¼	100	Treas	12% 1986	103½	-⅛	11.594	10.146
99⅞	94¼	Treas	8½% 1984-86	97¼	..	8.741	9.879
87⅝	84½	Exch	2½% 1986	85⅞	..	2.937	8.875
109½	105⅜	Exch	14% 1986	108½	..	12.903	10.135
107⅝	103⅞	Exch	13¼% 1987	107⅞	..	12.380	10.226
100⅞	95⅞	Treas C	10¼% 1987	100⅞	..	10.257	10.178
86⅞	80¼	Exch	2½% 1987	83⅞	..	2.985	9.012
101⅞	95¾	Exch	10½% 1987	100½	-⅛	10.448	10.301
93	86	Fund	6½% 1985-87	91	..	7.143	9.961
102⅞	97⅞	Treas	10½% 1987	99	-⅛	10.101	10.355
85	80½	Treas	3% 1987	82⅞	..	3.631	9.277
105	99⅞	Treas	12% 1987	104⅞	..	11.476	10.434
95	89¼	Treas	7¾% 1985-88	93¼	..	8.323	9.951
101⅞	95	Exch	10½% 1988	100⅞	..	10.467	10.405
106	98½	Treas IL	2% 1988	103	+⅛		4.407
99½	95⅛	Treas C	9¾% 1988	97¾	..	9.974	10.405
[illegible]	75¾	Trans	3% 1978-88	79½	..	3.774	8.910
99	91	Treas	9½% 1988	96½	..	9.845	10.482
MEDIUMS							
106⅞	96	Treas	11½% 1989	103½	..	11.111	10.547
103	95	Treas	10½% 1989	102⅝	+⅛	10.560	10.656
100	98¼	Exch	10% 1989	99⅞	+⅛	10.343	10.618
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

LONGS

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A—B

1983/84 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
304	202	Amersham Int	228	+2	6.4	2.8	18.3
184	115	Anglia TV 'A'	177	..	10.0	5.8	13.0
20½	13½	Anglo Amer Ind	£17½	..	102	5.8	8.6
43	29½	Aquascutum 'A'	39½	..	2.9	7.4	78.0
176	111	Argyll Grp	176	..	6.4	3.6	19.1
825	362	Ash & Lacy	820	-3	35.7	4.6	9.8
313	172	Ass Book	313	+10	10.4	3.3	12.1
182	128½	Ass Brit Food	176	..	6.8	3.9	7.8
182	162	Ass Dairies	174	..	3.7	2.1	25.2
[illegible]	[illegible]	Ass Fisheries	93	..	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	138	Ass News	488	-8	14.9	3.0	[illegible]
124	63	Ass Paper	123	..	6.0b	4.9	10.1
480	255	Atlantic Comp	445	+8	[illegible]	0.7	[illegible]
120	78½	Attwoods PLC	106	..	3.8	3.6	21.7
57	25	Ault & Wiborg	35	..	1.2	3.4	..
20½	7	Aurora PLC	20	-½	..	..	8.4
20	9	Do 8% Cnv Pref	20	..	1.3	6.5	..
81	30	Automotive Pd	75	-2	1.4	1.9	17.6
162	88	Avon Rubber	160	-1	4.3	2.7	8.7
225	131	B.A.T. Ind	220	-1	11.8	5.4	5.9
43	24	BBA Grp	38	..	2.5	6.5	10.6
298	106	BET Dfd	263	..	14.8	5.6	10.8
290	210	BICC	268	+1	16.1	5.9	11.6
81	17	BL PLC	58	..	..	..	..
307	170	BOC	274	-1	9.0	3.3	15.4
320	233	BPB Ind	300	..	9.0	3.0	13.4
169	77	B P C C	158	+1	7.1b	4.5	17.0
128	73	BPM Hldgs 'A'	120	..	8.7	7.2	20.9
32	9½	BSG Int	20	+½	0.5	2.5	..
288	54½	BSR PLC	288	..	2.0b	0.7	34.4
482	202	BTR PLC	462	-2	12.1	2.6	18.2
182	102	Babcock Int	162	+2	11.0	6.8	7.3
142	71	Baggeridge Brk	136	..	7.5	5.5	7.5
17	9½	Bailey C.H. Ord	13½	-1	..	..	..
320	227	Baird W.	318	..	21.6b	6.8	9.0
118	41½	Bairstow Eves	105	-8	2.3b	2.2	17.5
155	83	Baker Perkins	139	..	7.7	5.5	11.9
68	43	Banro Ind	63	..	4.7	7.5	11.1
12	7½	Barker & Dobson	11	-½	0.4	3.3	12.1
840	518	Barlow Rand	790	+5	41.7b	5.3	8.4
276	128	Barratt Devs	128	..	10.9	8.5	6.4
40	21	Barrow Hepbn	39	+1	3.1	8.1	37.9
172	100	Bath & P'land	156	-2	8.6b	5.5	25.1
47½	29½	Bayer	£45¼	-¼	104	2.3	21.4
249	158	Beatson Clark	193	..	12.9	6.7	9.5
81	45	Beauford Grp	70	-3	5.0	7.1	6.4

C—E

F—H

I—N

O—S

T—Z

SHIPPING

1983/84 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
197	137	Throgmtn Trust	194	-1	9.3	4.8	..
149	111	Trans Oceanic	138	..	4.1	2.9	..
92	58½	Tribune Inv	91	..	2.7	2.9	..
81	66½	Triplevest 'Inc'	80½	..	10.5a	13.1	..
362	300	Do Cap	352	-2	..	..	..
182	129	Utd States Deb	176	..	9.3b	5.3	..
94	60	Viking Res	84	+1	1.3	1.5	..
76	40	Westpool Inv	74	..	1.8	2.4	..
135	80	Witan Inv	129	-1	3.4b	2.7	..

MINES

OIL

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

PROPERTY

MONEY MARKETS

Clearing Banks Base Rate 8½%

Discount Mkt Loans %

Overnight: High 9¼ Low 5

Week Fixed: 8¾

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

Local Authority Bonds

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

Local Authority Market (%)

Interbank Market (%)

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)

Finance House Base Rate 9½%

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

OTHER MARKETS

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES

Rubber in £s per tonne; Coffee, cocoa, sugar in pounds per metric ton. Gas-oil in US $ per metric ton.

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

Unofficial prices. Official turnover figures. Prices in pounds per metric ton. Silver in pence per troy ounce.

RUBBER

SUGAR

COCOA

COPPER HIGH GRADE

STANDARD CATHODES

TIN STANDARD

TIN HIGH GRADE

LEAD

ZINC

SILVER LARGE

SILVER SMALL

ALUMINIUM

NICKEL

GILTS

Comment: Recovering.

ATHLETICS

Lewis after the gold that will turn into millions

New York (Reuter) – He lives in a style befitting perhaps the world's greatest athlete – a huge house in Houston with servants and all the trappings of wealth – even though he is technically an amateur. That is a sign of the times in athletics.

But Carl Lewis says his already grand lifestyle would be improved immeasurably if he achieved his ambition of becoming the first athlete since Jesse Owens in 1936 to win four gold medals in the Olympic Games this year in Los Angeles.

"If I won four golds, it would be worth millions and millions of dollars, Lewis said. The affable, candid Lewis, aged 22, does not deny that he lives in splendour, even though, technically, any money he makes from athletics goes into a trust fund that he cannot touch until he leaves the amateur ranks.

Most of the money Lewis has received – believed to be in the hundreds of thousands of dollars – has come from commercial endorsements.

Lewis declines to say how much he has earned. But asked if he would consider a career in professional football, where salaries average about $150,000 (about £103,000) a year, he said: "They could never pay me enough money."

A triple gold medallist at last year's world championships in Helsinki, Lewis is convinced he can win gold medals at Los Angeles in the 100 and 200 metres, the long jump, in which he holds the world indoor record of 28 feet 10¼ inches (8.79 metres), and in the 4 x 100 metres relay.

Those were the same events in which the legendary Owens – Lewis' boyhood hero – captured four gold medals in 1936.

"I think my best chance of a gold is in the long jump. I think I'm proudest of my accomplishments in the long jump, where I feel I've been a pioneer. Before I came along, not many people even paid attention to it, and most thought it was a boring event."

Lewis's major goal is to surpass the outdoor world record of 8.90 metres (29ft 2½in) set by Bob Beamon in the rarefied altitude of Mexico City in 1968. "I think 30 feet is attainable, but I'll be happy to do 29 feet this year," he said.

"I know some athletes resent me, because they think I'm a showboat, which I don't think I am, although I am enthusiastic, and I think there's a lot of envy involved."

Recently he embarked on a new career – as a singer. He made a disco single, which is to be released in late April. The title of the song? It's Going for the gold.

MOTOR RACING



Pironi in pain: flashback to his crash at Hockenheim two years ago

Pironi back driving at Nürburgring

Bonn (Reuter) – Didier Pironi, the French Formula One driver, who has not raced since receiving severe leg injuries in a crash at Hockenheim almost two years ago, is to take part in a saloon car race at the Nürburgring next month.

Pironi, who fractured both legs and an arm in a 150 mph crash during practice for the 1982 West German Grand Prix, has entered a Mercedes 190 race, in which he competes with 11 Formula One world champions. The race is part of a four-part cavalcade on May 12 to mark the opening of a shortened version of the once notorious Nürburgring circuit.

Pironi, aged 32, who has had nine operations since his crash, does not have the full use of his legs, but his entry is bound to increase speculation that he may attempt a full comeback at some stage. He led the 1982 world championship at the time of his accident, in which he collided with a fellow countryman, Alain Prost, in pouring rain.

Among those entered for the saloon car race are the world champion, Nelson Piquet, of Brazil, and Niki Lauda.

CRICKET

Scoring of points will be more complicated

By Michael Berry

That hot potato of the scoring system in the Minor Counties Championship, now run under the sponsorship flag of United Friendly Insurance, will be thrown around with new vigour in the coming season.

The present system is more difficult to explain than it is to implement. The side gaining first-innings lead over the opening 55 overs collect three points, the opposition one. If the side with three points then goes on to win the match, both first innings awards are conceded with the winners gaining only the 10 victory points.

If, however, the side behind on 55 overs in the first innings win the game, they take 10 points but the losers retain their three first innings points. In drawn games both counties keep their first innings points. Sides that are level over 55 overs in the first innings with two points apiece and tied games share the 10 points.

In short, the autumn meetings of the MCCA have left the counties three possibilities to mull over in readiness for 1985. One is to leave the present method untouched; the second, proposed by Cornwall, is to introduce a bonus points scheme similar to the first-class game; and the third is to allow the first innings points to stand whatever to final outcome of the game.

Though the less revolutionary of the two changes, the latter idea is though the more likely to receive any worthwhile support.

● One development that has been welcomed during the winter months is that the admirable work of Robert Brooke, Ken Trushell, Brian Hunt and the Association of Cricket Statisticians in producing a Minor Counties Annual has, not before time, been recognized.

The annual will merge with the Minor Counties handbook to become the competitions official publication in 1984.

● The revelation that both Shropshire individually and Northumberland and Durham as a combined concern have enquired about first-class status has been matched at the other end of the scale with the news that Herefordshire's tentative approach to join the Minor Counties Championship has been received from the competition's hierarchy.

● A big event on the Minor Counties calendar this season will be a tour by Kenya, who were in England for the ICC Trophy three years ago. Links with East Africa have been fostered by recent MMCA visits abroad.

ITINERARY: June 5/6 v Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire XI (Letchworth); June 7/8 v Suffolk and Norfolk XI (Framlingham College); June 11 v Northamptonshire II (Northampton); June 12 v Cambridgeshire (Peterborough); June 13 v Lincolnshire (Bourne); June 14/15 v Cumberland, Durham and Northumberland XI (Penrith); June 19 v Lancashire II (Old Trafford); June 20 v Cheshire (Northwich); June 21/22 v Oxfordshire, Berkshire and Wiltshire XI (Oxford); June 25/26 v Devon, Dorset and Cornwall XI (Sherborne); June 27/29 v Minor Counties XI (Watneys, Mortlake).

Gower must play the waiting game

Peter May, chairman of the England selectors, says there is "still some way to go" before David Gower is given the captaincy on a regular basis. Gower, having led England twice in Pakistan, is the leading candidate to take over from Bob Willis, who is now expected to be playing very early in the season as he recovers from a viral infection. Alec Bedser, one of the reappointed Test selectors and a former chairman, says that Gower is favourite for the job, but May pointed out yesterday that the appointment should not yet be regarded as a forgone conclusion.

He said: "There is still some way to go. The selectors have not met yet and will not have a first get-together until later this month. Then there is the question of a fitness report on Bob Willis to be considered at a later stage."

May, however, reiterated Bedser's views that Gower must be the leading contender after his performances in the last two test matches in Pakistan when he led the side after Willis's return.

"He reacted well in both Tests and batted extremely well. We have always hoped that he would eventually turn into an England captain and that is why he has been vice-captain for the past two seasons."

David Brown, the Warwickshire manager, said yesterday that he hoped that Bob Willis will be playing for the county "very early in the new season". Brown dismissed speculation that Willis will miss the first month of the season because of a virus infection which caused his early return from England's tour of Pakistan.

"There should be plenty of time for him to press his claims for an England place and for the England captaincy", he said. "Bob has not even ruled out the possibility of starting the season. At the very worst, I would hope that he could play in a three day friendly at Cambridge University beginning on May 9.

"When he saw the specialist last week, he was told it would be more likely the first week in May before he could play competitive cricket, although if he felt well enough, the process could be accelerated."

● Somerset have agreed contract terms with Andrew Jones, a 19-year-old fast bowler from Chandler's Ford in Hampshire. Jones, who has also played county golf and basketball, will study physical education at Exeter University for the next four years provided he obtains the necessary A level grades. Jones will join the team on April 16 for two weeks' practice before returning to college to prepare for his exams.

Horton's pupils

After nearly 18 years as New Zealand's national director of cricket coaching, Martin Horton, the former England and Worcestershire batsman, has joined the staff of Worcester Royal Grammer School. One of his tasks will be to help Henry Horton, a former Hampshire batsman, with cricket coaching.

Pakistan recall Sarfraz to Asia Cup squad

Karachi (Reuter) – Sarfraz Nawaz has been pardoned by the Pakistan Cricket Control Board for a code of conduct violation and reinstated in the side to play in this month's inaugural Asia Cup in Sharjah, board officials said yesterday.

Sarfraz, who played a leading role in Pakistan's Test series win over England last month, was dropped from the 14-man squad after a newspaper report which quoted him as saying that some players might not play in the Asia Cup if the Board did not accept their financial demands. Sarfraz subsequently tendered an apology which the Board accepted.

Zaheer Abbas, the Pakistan captain, and Javed Miandad were both declared fit on Tuesday

Pakistan will play their first match of the Asia Cup against Sri Lanka and then meet India on April 13.

The Board will retain Zaheer as captain for the home test series against India and New Zealand later this year. If Imran is fit by then he will play under Zaheer.

SQUAD: Zaheer Abbas (captain), Mohsin Khan, Mudassar Nazar, Qasim Omar, Salim Malik, Javed Miandad, Wasim Raja, Saadat Ali, Anil Dalpat, Rashid Khan, Sarfraz Nawaz, Azeem Hafeez, Shahid Mahboob, Abdul Qadir.

Death of double international Arnold at 76

Johnny Arnold, one of the few men to gain England international honours at cricket and football, has died in a Southampton hospital aged 76. Arnold, born in Oxfordshire, was capped by England at cricket against New Zealand at Lord's in 1931. He won his England football as outside left against Scotland at Hamden Park two years later.

A right-hand opening batsman, Arnold played cricket for Hampshire from 1929 to 1950. He scored 21,831 runs including 37 centuries, at an average of 32.82 and also took 17 wickets.

As a football player, Arnold played for Southampton and Fulham. In 1950, he became a cricket umpire and was on the first class list for over 20 years.

● Frank Mitchell, a former Birmingham City footballer and Warwickshire cricketer, has died at the age of 61 after a long illness. Australian-born Mitchell played left-half for Birmingham after the war, making one appearance for an England XI against Scotland in a fund-raising game for the victims of the Bolton crowd disaster. He was an all rounder with Warwickshire.

More cricket, page 27

RUGBY UNION

Brixham decide not to take RFU to court

Brixham Rugby Club, banned for the rest of the season because of alleged dirty play, have decided not to take legal action against the Rugby Football Union. The club's executive committee, were split 6-6 on whether to take England's ruling body to court but at an extraordinary general meeting members voted against.

The ban followed incidents in games against Exeter University, and Exmouth.

John Raphael, the Northampton captain, has been forced to retire from rugby at the age of 31. Leading medical experts have warned the hooker, who was an England replacement 17 times without winning a full cap, that one more injury to his neck could put him in a wheelchair for the rest of his life.

SQUASH RACKETS

The peanut-butter girl grows up

By Colin McQuillan

On an afternoon marked by British success, the seventh-ranked Englishwoman, Nicki Spurgeon, acheived the outstanding result in the second round of the women's singles in the British Open championship, sponsored by Davies and Tate, at Brighton yesterday. She beat the former British closed champion Alison Cumings, in a five-game match distinguished by skill and adventure.

Miss Spurgeon and Miss Cumings are both 22 years old. They both play for Surrey and recently they combined to win the inaugural British Doubles title at Swindon against the vastly more experienced opposition of Martine Le Moignan and Barbara Diggens. They were helped to that victory by the advice and encouragement of the former international, Stuart Courtney, and it was apparent from yesterday's 8-10, 9-7, 9-4, 2-9, 9-5 victory that Miss Spurgeon has profited from Courtney's experience.

"I have always lost to Alison 3-0 in past meetings. Everyone was telling me I had a real chance this time and I started to believe it myself," said Miss Spurgeon, adding that she deliberatley missed the sponsor party the previous evening and built up energy eating peanut-butter sandwiches.

She might have reversed the usual 0-3 scoreline in her own favour had she not served out when leading 8-4 in the opening game and then allowed her opponent to win 10-8 while she continued to brood on her error. "I just could not get it out of my mind," she said.

Miss Spurgeon took the next two games easily, but faded from the fourth

The fifth game was hardly a contest as Miss Spurgeon took over the front court and sprayed the top of the tin with Courtney-style disguised drops and angles.

The No 1 seed, Lisa Opie had to fight hard to overcome the young Australian, Tracey Smith, 9-1, 9-2, 5-9, 9-7. Her likely semi-final opponent, Martine Le Moignan, crushed Catherine Bellemore, another Australian, 9-3, 9-3, 10-8.

MEN'S SINGLES: Second round: J Khan (Pak) bt G Alauddin (Pak) 9-1, 9-2, 9-0; M Ahmed (Pak) bt L Kvant (Swe), 9-2, 9-4, 9-2; M Saad (Eg) bt J Hickox (Eng), 5-9, 1-9, 9-4, 9-3, 9-0; G El Amir (Eg) bt B Almstrom (Swe), 9-3, 8-10, 4-9, 9-6, 10-8; R Norman (NZ) bt G Brumby (Aus), 7-9, 9-10, 9-2, 9-2, 9-3; S Davenport (NZ) bt N Harvey (Eng), 5-9, 9-5, 9-7, 9-0.

WOMEN'S SINGLES: Second round: L Opie (Eng) bt T Smith (Aus), 9-1, 9-2, 5-9, 9-7; H Wallace (Scot) bt J Williams (NZ), 9-7, 9-4, 9-0; A Smith (Eng) bt C Oxley (Eng), 9-6, 9-5, 9-6; N Spurgeon (Eng) bt A Cumings (Eng), 8-10, 9-7, 9-4, 2-9, 9-5; M Le Moignan (Eng) bt C Bellamore (Aus), 9-3, 9-3, 9-8.

Profile of a mogul, Page 27

TENNIS

Miss Durie flies high with British Airways

Jo Durie, Britain's No 1 player, is to be sponsored by British Airways, backing which will be worth £40,000 to the end of the year. "I think my back will feel the greatest benefit, for this will allow me to traval abroad in a little more comfort". Miss Durie said at a London press conference yesterday. She returns to competition in the United States next week after an absence caused by her back complaint.

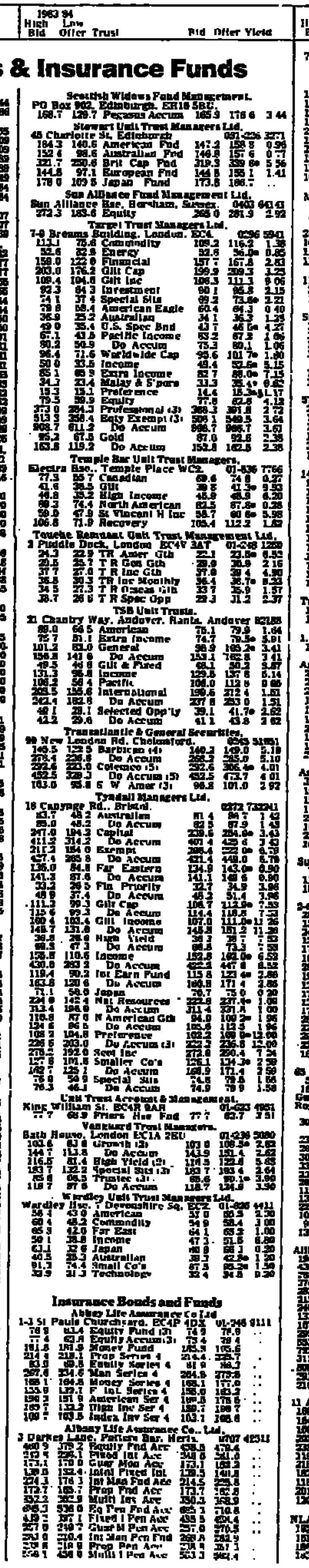
● Hittfeld, West Germany (Reuter) – A womwn's grand prix tournament, scheduled to open here on April 30, has been cancelled after the event's main sponsor decided to pull out.

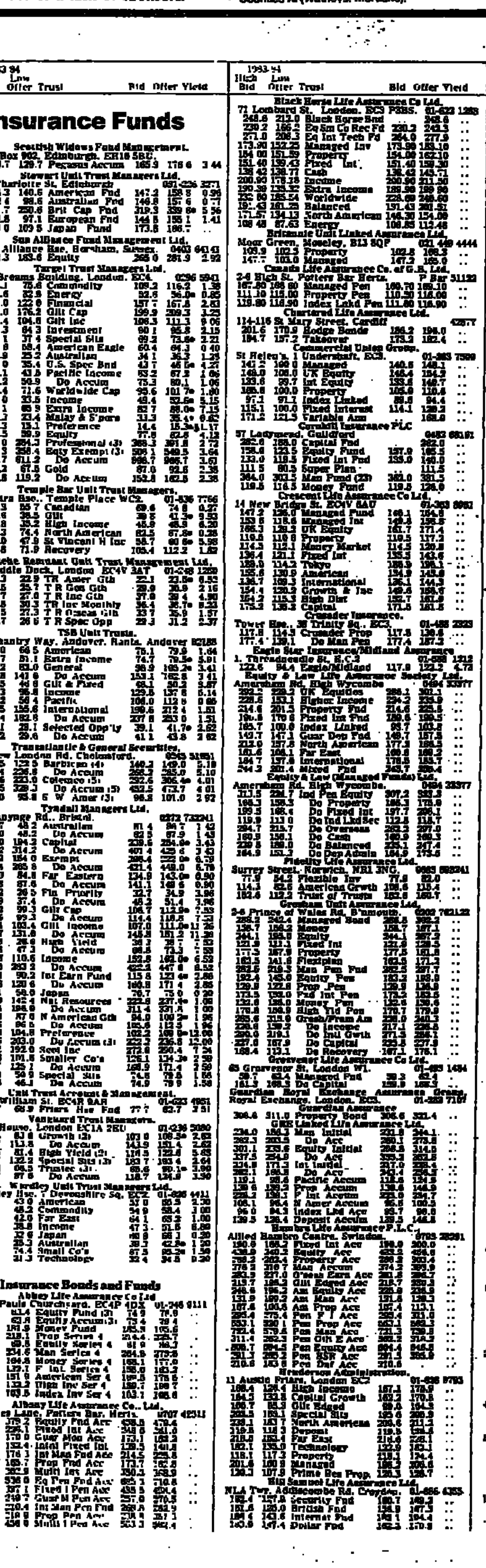
● Lisbon (AFP) – This year's Portuguese Open has been called off because of a lack of sponsors.

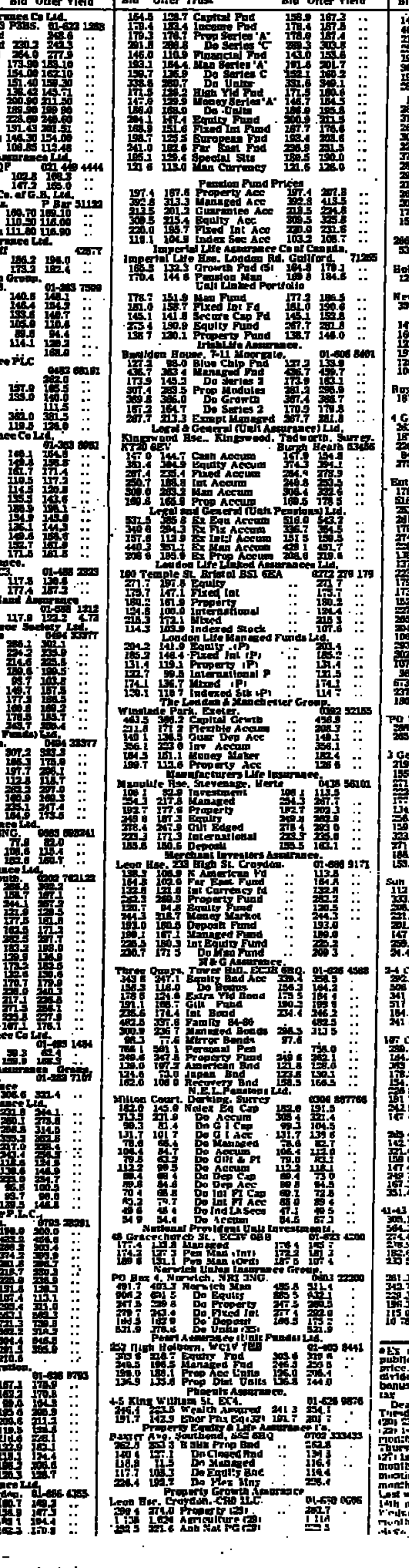
Authorized Units & Insurance Funds

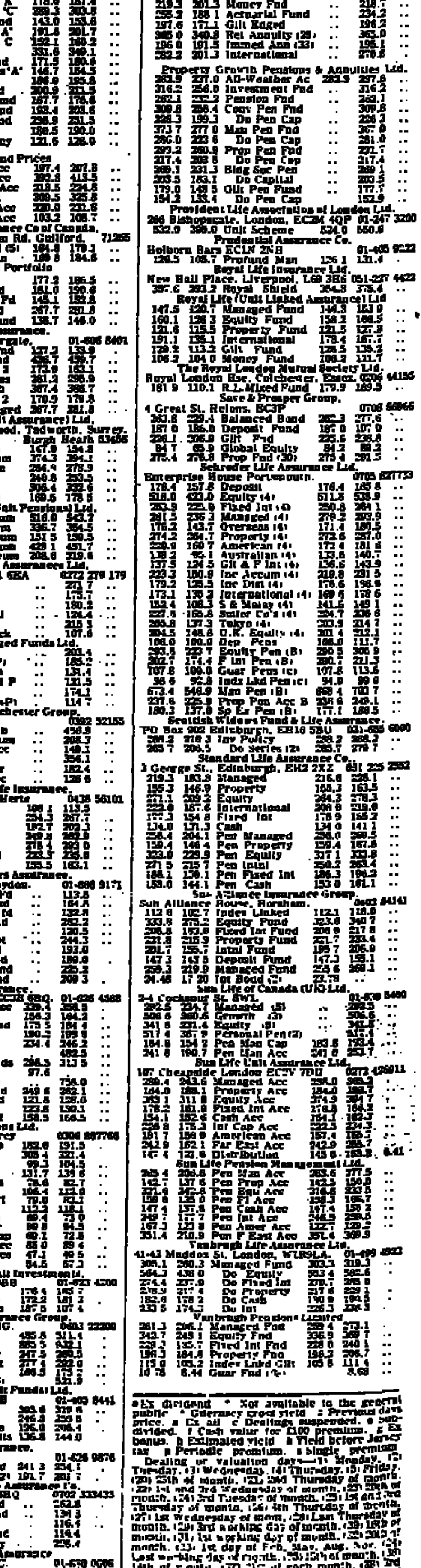
1983/84 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield

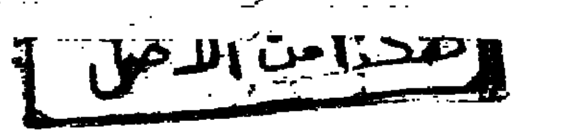
Authorized Unit Trusts











DRUGS IN SPORT

Experts try to beat the cheats

London (Reuter) – Hormones extracted from the urine of pregnant women and the pituitary glands of human corpses are among the latest drugs used by athletes in the hope of improving their performance.

As sports authorities have moved to control and ban the use of anabolic steroids and testosterone, both widely used as performance-enhancing drugs, so athletes have looked for alternatives. According to Professor Arnold Beckett, of London University, a leading expert in this field, they have chosen two drugs in particular, Human chorionic gonatrophin (HCG), and a growth hormone, known as Somatropin or STH.

Neither has yet been banned by international sports authorities, but Professor Beckett says that research into their effects and their detection is underway.

Of the two drugs, most media attention has so far been concentrated on Somatropin. Taken from the pituitary glands of human corpses, it is normally prescribed by doctors to children suffering from dwarfism, or growth deficiency. Athletes injecting the drug claim it increases muscle bulk and strengthens bones.

HCG, derived from the urine of pregnant women, is used with the aim of stimulating the natural production of the male hormone, testosterone. This, in turn, is said to produce better muscle development and to work on the central nervous system. It should make an athlete more aggressive and more competitive and allow him to train harder.

Testosterone will be a banned drug at this year's Olympics in Los Angeles. But doctors say HCG could produce the same effect on athletes indirectly, while avoiding the risk of disqualification.

Any move against the drugs by sports authorities necessarily requires the development of tests to detect when they have been used.

Both somatropin and HCG *present complex problems.*

The drugs are detectable in blood plasma, but those drug-testing at athletic events are forced to work with urine samples, which complicates their job, particularly in the case of somatropin.

But it is precisely this rapid absorption that has made some experts question whether either drug offers the athlete anything more than a catalogue of unpleasant side effects.

Professor Beckett was more cautious. Although surprised *that somatropin should* be taken as a performance-booster at all, he was unwilling to write it off. "The difficulty is that you're talking about normal conditions. It's the same argument that used to come for *anabolic steroids.* A lot of medical people said anabolic steroids would not do anything in sport, but they were talking about normal doses, they weren't *talking about massive* doses, and it has been demonstrated by results that anabolic steroids did produce advantages," he said.

Yet however inconclusive the scientific evidence, it appears many sportsmen, particularly in the United States, are using *both drugs in the hope* of improving their performance.

FOOTBALL: BATTLE ON TWO FRONTS AT THE BASEBALL GROUND

Taylor goes and McFarland takes charge

By Clive White

Peter Taylor agreed yesterday to resign as Derby County manager. Though he had two years of his contract left to run he agreed to accept nominal compensation in view of the club's financial frailty. Roy McFarland will take charge until the end of the season.

While Taylor had been trying to manage a football team faced with relegation a bigger battle for the club's very life had been raging around him. In such a situation it was inevitable that Taylor would eventually lose either his job or his sanity. He said yesterday: "The adverse publicity has been affecting my family. It was not the results that have brought about my decision. Bad results I can live with but not the atmosphere I have had to endure lately."

His departure coincides with the appointment of Stuart Webb as chairman of a new board of directors in succession to John Kirkland. On Monday Webb, who was previously chief executive, saved the club from bankruptcy by presenting in the High Court a financial plan in which Robert Maxwell, the publishing millionaire and chairman of Oxford United, would become the landlord at the Baseball Ground. The proposal still requires the approval of the Football League.

Taylor was one half of the first and still the most outrageous and successful double acts in English football management. His tempestuous relationship with Brian Clough began at Derby, during an earlier association with the club, and together they won the League championship in 1971-72.

They joined forces again later at Nottingham Forest and repeated the successful formula in the championship and the European Cup which they won twice.

Striking out on his own, Taylor has looked insecure despite gathering around him old favourites like Gemmill, Robertson and McFarland. Defeat against Plymouth Argyle in the FA Cup sixth round probably cost him as dearly as it did the club. McFarland, who inherits a team in twentieth position and eight points adrift of second division survival, said he was "sick and upset" by Taylor's departure and added: "It's a relief not to be going as well."

Maxwell sells

Robert Maxwell is to sell his shares in Reading. The Oxford chairman and new Derby County landlord, became a major shareholder at Reading when he tried to merge the club with Oxford a year ago. He acquired 19 per cent of the shares – but his amalgamation plans eventually fell through.



Taylor: publicity too much for family

Hoddle hobbles to Helsinki

Glenn Hoddle yesterday turned to a top overseas specialist to help solve his nagging achilles tendon trouble.

Tottenham's England midfield player flew to Helsinki for a fresh opinion on the problem that has plagued him for the past four months.

Peter Shreeves, Tottenham's assistant manager, said it would be a "wonder-achievement" if the specialist came up with an immediate answer. He said: "We hoped Glenn's holiday in Florida recently would have cured the problem, but as soon as he started training again it was apparent that it hadn't.

"Glenn is contracted to the American shoe company Nike and they suggested sending him to Helsinki. Apparently the specialist has helped some of their other athletes, so it is worth trying for the cost of an air ticket."

Hoddle will see Tottenham's own specialist on his return from Finland tomorrow when a decision will be made on the next course of action. "We will have to decide whether to put the foot in plaster, step up the cortisone treatment or carry out an exploration operation to see the exact extent of the damage", added Shreeves.

At this stage Spurs refuse to rule out Hoddle for the rest of the season. "I'm still hoping for the best," said Shreeves.

Hoddle: fresh opinion

It looks touch and go, however, whether Hoddle will be fit to tour South America with England in June – and it could also interfere with his prospects of joining a top continental club during the summer. British athletes to have sought the advice of the Helsinki specialist are *the former world record halder* Dave Bedford and Olympic 800 metres runner John Davies.

● The Bristol Rovers captain, Aidan McCaffery, was recovering in *Southend Hospital yesterday after* being concussed during the first half of Tuesday night's Associate Members Cup quarter-final at Southend. The injury is more serious than at first suspected. The Southend club physician, Dr Monty Lubel, said: "It was an incident in *which there was a danger to life.*"

McCaffery, a defender, was knocked out in a mid-air collision with his own goalkeeper Phil Kite. As he lay unconscious on the pitch for nearly five minutes, his tongue began so slip down his throat and his teeth were so tightly clenched *that scissors had* to be used

Brawl ends Stoke's dour match

Doha, Qatar (Reuter) – Fighting in the seventieth minute ended a match between Stoke City and their Qatar national team here yesterday. Stoke were 1-0 up through a goal in the thirty-second minute by Mark Chamberlain when the referee abandoned the match because of the brawl.

A foul started the violence and as players crowded round, it was difficult to see who had exchanged blows. The game was part of Qatar's Olympic preparations.

● PARIS: Georges Peyroche returned on Tuesday as manager of *French Cup holders Paris Saint-*Germain 10 months after leaving the club (AFP reports). They won *the cup twice in four years under* Peyroche. He left last June because he felt he did not have the support of the board.

He takes over until the end of the season from the 65-year-old Lucien Leduc, who was given a one-year contract last summer. The club said *Leduc, a manager with a glorious* past, who had come out of retirement to take charge of them, had resigned.

The club were knocked out of the cup by second division Mulhouse this year and their championship ambitions appear seriously compro*mised:*

● MILAN: Lamberto Mazza, president of Udinese, announced on Tuesday the installation of the world's third largest colour display board to entertain supporters before and after games in the team's stadium (AP reports).

Italians earn the right to meet England

Brescia (Reuter) – Italy beat Albania 1-0 in their UEFA under-21 *championship quarter-final match* here yesterday to take the tie 2-0 on aggregate. Italy, who now meet the defending champions, England, in the semi-final, took control from the start and Vignola, of Juventus, put them ahead in the thirtythird minute with a 30-yard free kick.

Paolo Monelli of Fiorentina, Giuseppe Galderisi, of Verona, created *several scoring chances.* Monelli beat the Albanian goalkeeper, Durini, in the second half but the Spanish referee had whistled for an infringement. Italy now travel to Manchester for the first leg of the semi-final on April 18. The other simi-final will be between the *winners of* Yugoslavia versus Scotland and Spain against Poland.

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

THIRD DIVISION: Brentford 4, Preston North End 1; *Wigan Athletic 1, Plymouth Argyle 1.*
ASSOCIATE MEMBERS' CUP: quarter-finals (Southern section): Bournemouth 2, Wrexham 0; Southend United 1, Bristol Rovers 2 (Bristol Rovers away to Bournemouth)
WELSH CUP: Semi-final, second leg: Swansea 1, Shrewsbury 0 (Agg 1–2).
ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Runcorn 2, Frickley 1.
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Gainsborough 1, Barrow 2; Goole 2, Horwich 0; Witton 2, Burton 1. League Cup: Semi-final, Second leg: Chorley 1, South Liverpool 1 (Agg 3–5). President's Cup: Semi-final, second leg: *Marine 3, Hyde 1 (Agg 4–1).*
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Corby 0, Fareham 0; Dorchester 1, Gravesend and Northfleet 2; Gloucester 3, Gosport 0. Midland division: Banbury 0, Bridgnorth 3; Forest Green 4, Wellingborough 1; Tamworth 0, Bromsgrove 6. Southern division: Basingstoke 0, Ashford 2; Canterbury 1, RS Southampton 1; Erith and Belvedere 3, Hounslow 1. Cup final, first leg: AP Leamington 0, Dartford 0.
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Harlow 2, Hayes 3; Harrow 1, Croydon 0; Hitchin 1, Walthamstow 0; Sutton United 2, Worthing 1. First division: Hertford 0, Kingstonian 1; Leatherhead 1, Windsor and Eton 0; Woking 0, Tilbury 1. Second division: Basildon 2, Dorking 0; Uxbridge 2, Leyton-Wingate 3; Southall 2, Finchley 1
ATHENIAN LEAGUE: Harefield 0, Whyteleafe 1; Thatcham 1, Banstead 1.
LONDON SENIOR CUP: Semi-final replay: Dulwich Hamlet 3, Leytonstone and Ilford 1.
ESSEX SENIOR CUP: Semi-final: Barking v Southend XI postponed.
HAMPSHIRE SENIOR CUP: Final: Farnborough 2, Sholing Sports 2 (aet).
CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Burnley 1, Sheffield Wednesday 1; Everton 1, Nottingham Forest 2; Leeds 4, Bolton 1. Second division: Coventry 0, Port Vale 0; Grimsby 6, Blackpool 1; Manchester City 3, Huddersfield 0; Middlesbrough 1, Rotherham 2
FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Birmingham 3, Oxford 5; Brighton 1, Ipswich 0; Charlton 1, Swindon 1; Chelsea 2, Fulham 1; Crystal Palace 2, Leicester 2; Queen's Park Rangers 0, West Ham 0.
FA YOUTH CUP: Semi-final, second leg: Arsenal 0, Stoke 3 (agg 2-8)
BUSF TOURNAMENT: Cambridge University 1, Northern Ireland University 1.
TOUR MATCH: Harwich and Parkeston 2, Lillestrom (Norway) 0.

RUGBY LEAGUE
FIRST DIVISION: Leeds 18, Leigh 24.

Middlesbrough chief

Middlesbrough have appointed David Gaster, aged 35, chief executive. Camerons Brewery (Hartlepool) *will pay Gaster's salary* and also give a short term loan to Middlesbrough as part of the club's survival.

Gaster, who lives near Loch Lomond, is expected to join the board of the second division club.

Yesterday's results

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES: Turkey 0, *Hungary 6; Israel 3, Republic of Ireland 0.*
LIBERTADORES CUP: Group three: Santos (Brazil) 3, Atlético Junior (Colombia) 0.
UEFA UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP: Quarter-final, second leg: Italy 1, Albania 0 (Agg 2–0).
MIDWEEK LEAGUE CUP: Bournemouth 2, Peterborough 2.
OLYMPIC QUALIFYING MATCH: *Poland 2,* East Germany 1
UEFA UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP: Quarter-final, second leg: Yugoslavia 3, Scotland 1 (aet: Yugoslavia win 4-3 on aggregate).

RUGBY UNION
CLUB MATCH: Rugby 4, Coventry 65.

RUGBY UNION

Students hand out a lesson to Rest

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

England Students 14
The Rest 10

With places going on the Under-23 trip to Spain next month and indeed on the senior tour to South Africa this game at Richmond *yesterday lacked the anticipated* quality. Though the Students were the more inventive of the two sides behind the scrum the Rest scored three tries, one converted to a try and two penalty goals.

It was the Students who posed the greater threat. Kidner regularly won *lineout ball regardless of who threw* in and their centres announced their presence in determined fashion. Twice they worked room for Campbell on the left wing but his second *run ended* with a smother tackle by Dodson at the corner in which he hurt an ankle and was *replaced by George, of Nottingham* University.

Nevertheless Burnhill and Cockell worked a smart loop for Cockell to spring to the line. Unfortunately he ignored his wing and failed to touch down properly. It was doubly unfortunate for the Students when, *from the drop-out,* Bailey kicked ahead and George was caught in possession. Emeruwa *wrenched the ball free on halfway,* Tressler was in support and Curry, the tight head prop, doubtless to his singular surprise, found his way to the line clear from 30 metres for a try that Andrew would not convert.

The Students continued to dominate play but though their *enterprise deserved tries their only* reward before the interval came from Moon, who kicked a short range penalty after Walsh was wide with two earlier efforts.

The unfettered eagerness which marked the first half was maintained in the second though now the Rest came increasingly into the picture.

The tide turned going into the last quarter. Moon kicked his side into the lead with his second penalty and it was the Abertillery scrum half – who hails from Walsall – who accepted Castelton's pick-up at a scrum and made the break for a try by Evans, though there was the *suspicion of a forward pass.*

The rest's goose was not yet cooked, however. With the minutes ticking away Dodson, Dusty Hare's deputy at Leicester made a clean break and sent his captain Bailey speeding over for a try, which Andrew converted to level matters. Bailey then secured a slightly undeserved result for his side by scoring a second try

SCORERS: England Students: Try: Evans; Penalties: Moon (2). The Rest: Tries: Bailey (2); Curry. Conversion: Andrew

ENGLAND UNDER-23: I Dodson (Leicester), J Goodwin (Moseley), C Smith (Moseley), K Simms (Cambridge University), M Bailey (Cambridge University, captain), R Andrews (Cambridge University), H Fitton (Sale), S Redfern (Leicester), C Tressler (Leicester), J Curry (Gosforth), N Redman (Bath), R Kimmins (Orrell), M Rose (Wasps), P Buckton (Liverpool) F Emeruwa (Wasps).
ENGLAND STUDENTS: D Walsh (London University), B Evans (Derby Lonsdale College), S Burnhill (Loughborough University), L Cockell (Thames Polytechnic), S Campbell (Thames Polytechnic (rep N George, Nottingham University), I Skinner (Kingston Polytechnic), R Moon (Uwist), G Smith (Moseley), P Sidi (London School of Law, captain), P Enevoldson (London University), J Wells (Loughborough University), J Morrison (Loughborough University), B Kidner (London University), D Keating (Durham University), N Castleton (Loughborough University).
Referee: P J Wakefield (London Society).

Happy wanderers

By David Hands

England Schools 53
Portugal Schools 0

The England Schools 16 group squad will depart for a three-match tour of Italy on Sunday having relieved the Dutch of forty points and, at Twickenham yesterday, the Portugese of over fifty, after scoring five goals, five tries and a penalty goal, *without reply,* in a *match* sponsored by Phillips Petroleum.

It was their seventh win out of seven in the series with Portugal and it was clear from the start – delayed though that was by a transport hitch – that the visitors would be lucky to get nil. Unfortunately the conse*quence of such obvious superiority* was the discipline became ragged and team skills abandoned.

The English boys were also hindered by finding Portugese bodies in unexpected places though they were compensated by a stream of penalty awards. After meeting *success with only one of his five* penalty efforts, Appleson gave his attention to joining his three quarters and enjoyed running forty metres for the last try.

There looked to be some genuine talent in the English back division and it would be instructive to see Tombs, *the Malvern-Hall stand-off* half, in a harder setting. Apart from scoring a try he sent Tomney, the right wing, on his way for two of the wing's three tries.

SCORERS: England Schools: Tries: Tomney (3), Harston Tombs, Hubbard, Boyle, Kardooni, Smith, Appleson. Conversions: Appleson (5). Penalty: Appleson

ENGLAND: M Appleson (Fyling Hall); M Tomney (Wickersley CS), D Gardiner (Nottingham HS), I Smith (Wellsway Keynsham), S Harston (St George's, Harpenden); M Tombs (Malvern Hall), A Kardooni (Sherborne); M Rogan (Bablake), D Brown (Stepney Green, captain), R Hubbard (Verulam), D West (Ashby GS), R Acland (Sir Charles Lucas), M Harris (St. Joseph's Academy), S Boyle (North Leamington), J Burroughs (Brighton College).

PORTUGAL: P Rosa; J Piraz, F Pardal (capt), J Abenza, P Mira; P Piraz, J Neves; S Ferreira, A Lopes, R Ferreira, J Simues, C Soares, D Pina, J Rosado, P Perestrelo.
Referee: G Crawford (London)

BADMINTON

Equal opportunities for Chinese to lead the way

A new generation of badminton players has been born out of China's millions with a young student from the ancient city of Hangzhou leading the way in this increasingly competitive sport (Reuter reports).

Li Lingwei became the youngest woman at the age of 19 to win the *world championships in Denmark* in May, beating her compatriot and long-time rival, Han Aiping, in the *final.* Was she *surprised?* "Not so surprised but very happy", she said in an interview en route to victory over Han in the final of the All-England championships.

Li, although stocky, moves around the court with unhurried elegance, forcing her opponents to scurry *after accurate shots. She* admits to feeling pain from an old knee injury when she plays hard and *had been unsure of her chances of* victory. Four Chinese women headed the seedings in the singles championship and four more were seeded first and second in the doubles.

Li first picked up a racket at school when she was 12. "I was just *playing for fun then and began* seriously when I was 16". She played in her first international in *the Asian championships four years* ago and her victories since include the world title and the Jakartar grand prix tournament in December *when she again beat Han, 22, in the* finals.

A physical education student due to graduate next year, Li ascribes China's recent domination of women's badminton to the fact that China has so many people. But the team mamager, Lu Shengrong, takes *a different* view. Equal rights and opportunities in sport for Chinese woman are a key to their success in international competitions, she explaied, adding that the women achieve better results generally than men.

Women in China are also under fewer social pressures than their western competitors, freeing them to devote themselves fully to sport, *Lu said. Boyfriends, social life and* weight-watching are western problems

Success on the court is seen as adding to the country's prestige and development. "Sport is a symbol for the country." Team spirit is most important. Lu and the Chinese *players say that victory in the world* team championships in Malaysia in May is regarded more highly than *winning the All-England.*

SQUASH RACKETS

The world is his stage to bestride

Hongkong (Reuter) – His face has becom so familiar that he is instantly recognized and frequently mobbed in his home city of Karachi. What little private life he enjoys has been threatened by the Pakistani government's decision to issue his face on a postage stamp. But the sinewy shoulders of Jahangir Khan, world squash champion and still only 21, seem strong enough to bear the adulation of his countrymen who revel in his extraordinary feats.

Jahangir, whose name appropriately means conqueror of the world and is derived from a mogul emperor, has not lost a *match since he was defeated by* Geoff Hunt, of Australia, in the British Open final in April 1981.

Hunt, three time winner of *the world open championship,* retired soon afterwards. Jahangir has never looked back since that defeat, winning 43 tournaments, and is now well on his way to becoming the sport's first dollar millionaire.

Jahangir's supremacy is such that a defeat would rock the sport to its foundations. But his rise to fame and fortune is not a freak of nature as he owes a great deal to inherited skills and even more to hard work.

The Khan family, which hails from the Peshawar destrict in northern Pakistan, was a *byword in world squash before* Jahangir's arrival. It was Jahangir's great grandfather, Abdul, who started the squash dynasty in 1911 when he became the tennis and squash coach to the British Army Club in Peshawar.

Father Roshin was the British Open champion in 1959



Jahangir: dedicate

while his uncle is the legendary Hashim Khan who won the "Open" seven time in the 1950s. "As a child I did not really start *playing until I was 12 years old.* Before that doctors told my parents that I should not play secretly with a shortened racket. Luckily an operation when I was 12 *cleared up the problem and I* was able to practise with the contry's top juniors and my relations" Jahangir says.

His brother Torsham was a world class player who coached Jahangir to victory in the 1979 world amateur championship when he was 15. But a few weeks later Torsham died *from* a heart attack during the Australian Open. Jahangir stopped playing for two months but his family urged him to try *and achieve his brother's* ambition to be world champion.

***The young Pakistani* now says that Torsham's death and his fierce Islamic faith spurred him on to greater heights, helped by a severe training regime and dedication. Jahangir does not drink and is undergoing a rigorous six hours a day training schedule for the European tournament which starts this month.**

Jahangir realizes that his pre-eminence *in the game could* lead to a lack of interest among spectators and his fellow competitors – and also to a fall in his personal standards. "It is a *problem for me that nobody is* able to challenge me. If they were, it would stimulate a lot more interest in my matches. At the moment people feel I am always going to win.

"The sport could certainly do with a good white player to come forward in the mould of Hunt or John Barrington", he said. "At the moment there are two good young players who *could develop sufficiently to* challenge me – Stuart Davenport, of New Zealand, and Chris Dittmar, of Australia", Jahangir added.

CRICKET

Marshall and Holding destroy Australians

Bidgetown (Reuter) – West Indies, with their fast bowlers in irresistible form, routed Australia for 97 and swept to a 10-wicket victory *in the third* Test match at Kensington Oval here yesterday. Holding and Marshall, who bowled unchanged, shot out *Australia's last* six wickets for 29 to set up a resounding win which put West Indies 1-0 up in the five-match series.

Australia, who were 80 runs behind on first innings and 68 for four overnight, crumbled in 73 minutes on the fifth and final day



Marshall: five for 42

and West Indies, needing 18 to win, completed their success 22 minutes before lunch.

Holding, who captured the first three wickets to fall yesterday *morning,* finished with four for 24. The remaining three were taken by Marshall, who undermined the start of Australia's second innings on Tuesday and ended with five for 42.

The nightwatchman, Hogan, who played a major part in saving the first Test in Guyana last month, pulled at the second ball of the day from Holding and skied a catch to Richardson sat Mid-wicket. Border, who stood between West Indies and victory in the second Test in Trinidad, was *next to go, hanging* his bat out to a ball from Holding he need not have played at and being caught behind.

With Australia only five runs in front Hookes, leaving a gap between bat and pad, helped a ball from Holding on to his middle stump, and without addition to the score Phillips played on against Marshall off the bottom of the bat. The way was clear for Marshall to wrap up *the innings. Harper* took a fine low catch at third slip to help him dismiss Lawson and he followed by bowling Alderman.

AUSTRALIA: First innings 429 (W B Phillips 120, G M Wood 68, G M Richie 57.

Second innings

G M Smith	b Marshall	20
S B Smith	b Marshall	7
G M Richie	c Haynes b Marshall	0
*K J Hughes	c Lloyd b Holding	25
T G Hogan	c Richardson b Holding	2
A R Border	c Dujon b Holding	8
D W Hookes	b Holding	9
W B Phillips	b Marshall	1
G F Lawson	c Harper b Marshall	2
R M Hogg	not out	5
T M Alderman	b Marshall	0
Extras	(b 1, l-b 6, n-b 11)	18
Total		97

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-13, 2-13, 3-63, 4-65, 5-68, 6-0, 7-85, 8-85, 9-92, 10-97.

BOWLING: Marshall 15.5-1-42-5; Garner 8-4-9-1; Holding 15-2-24-4; Harper 2-1-1-0, Baptiste 3-0-14-0.

WEST INDIES: First Innings

C G Greenidge run out	64
D L Haynes b Hogg	145
R B Richardson not out	131
I V A Richards b Lawson	8
E A E Baptiste b Lawson	11
†P J Dujon b Alderman	2
*C H Lloyd b Hogg	76
M D Marshall b Hogg	10
R A Harper b Hogg	19
J Garner c Phillips b Hogg	9
M A Holding c Smith b Hogg	0
Extras (l-b 25, n-b 11)	36
Total	509

FALL OF WICKETS: 1–32, 2–277, 3–289, 4–313, 5–316, 6–447, 7–465, 8–493, 9–509, 10–509.

BOWLING: Lawson 33.2-4-150-2; Alderman 42.4-6-152-1; Hogg 33-4-77-6; Hogan 34-8-97-0; Border 3-1-8-0.

Second Innings

C G Greenidge	not out	10
D L Haynes	not out	11
Total	(No Wkt)	21

Umpires: D M Archer and L Barker.

Alderman agrees

Terry Alderman, the Australian Test bowler, has agreed to play for Kent this season, if Eldine Baptiste is selected for the West Indies party to tour England.

MOTOR RACING

Concern over fuel limits in Grand Prix

Kyalami (Reuter) – Leading motor racing teams yesterday voiced concern over this season's new fuel limits as they began unofficial practice for Saturday's South African Grand Prix, the second race of the season. Each car is limited to 220 litres for the 312km (194-mile) race, leaving little margin for error, with all refuelling stops banned.

That ruling cost Renault driver Patrick Tambay dear in the opening race of the season in Brazil last month. A small crack in the fuel tank meant he was *left stranded just* a few kilometres from the finish. The new ruling puts extra pressure on the driver, the Frenchman said.

One official said the new ruling was regarded by many drivers as a gimmick to add extra tension to an already dangerous sport. "It will be a matter of tactics and strategy as *much as driving skill*", he said.

The race authorities introduced the ruling to counter increased hazards caused by cars pulling *into* the pits for refuelling.

Judge overrules jury in case of defective tyre

Providence, Rhode Island (AP) – Unless it wins an appeal of Superior Court decision, the Goodyear Tyre and Rubber Co. will have to pay the family of Mark Donohue more than $12.5m in damages because of a defective tyre that contributed to Donohue's death.

A six-member jury has agreed with Donohue's family that Goodyear *and the Penske Corporation* were responsible for a tyre that blew out on the formula one car Donohue was driving when he crashed during practice laps at the 1975 Austrian Grand Prix. The jury granted his wife, Carmen E Donhue Rafshoon, and his two sons by a previous marriage an award of $9.6m against the two companies.

But the judge Anthony A Giannini overruled the verdict with respect to Penske, the owner of the car, saying *there was no evidence* given during the trial that the company could have known about the defect in car's left-front tyre. As a result, Goodyear must pay the full amount of the *damages in* the wrongful death suit.

ATHLETICS

McLeod gives answer to the selectors

By David Powell

Mike McLeod gave his answer last night to the England cross-country selectors who chose to omit him from the World Championships in New York eleven days ago. He won the *Newcastle City Centre* five thousand metres road race, sponsored by Nike, beating some of Britain's leading *middle-distance* runners, including Steve Cram and David Moorcroft.

Both Cram, who finished sixth, and Moorcroft, who finished third, were making their return to big-time racing in Britain after winter training in Australia and New Zealand.

On a six-lap course which took in Northumberland Street, where McLeod works, the early pace was set by Michael Chorlton the Northern cross-country champion, and *Michael Bishop.* But two *thirds* of the way through McLeod made his move and only David Lewis could respond.

YACHTING

Britons out of contention

From Barry Pickthall, Vilamoura, Portugal

Starting at the favoured pin end of the line, Andrew Menkart and James Kayle, of the United States, led the 79-strong fleet from start to *finish in yesterday's fourth race for* the Star World Championship to share the overall lead in this six race series with *Bill Buchan and Steve* Erickson, fellow Americans.

It proved to be another disappointing day for the British, who have now slipped out of contention to win this world championship for the first time.

David Howlett and Tim Tavinor, *who started so promisingly,* showing they have the speed to challenge the Americans, could not climb higher than twentieth in the 10-15 knot shifting breeze that prevailed *yesteday and finished a disappoint*ing 24th, while John Boyce and David Munge, who held ninth place at the start of the final beat dropped 25 places before the finish

American sailors have *now* every race in this important series and though each of these winners have had a least one bad race and cannot afford another poor performance today or tomorrow, only Giorgio Gorla and Alfio Teraboni, of Italy, now look able to offer any challenge

FOURTH RACE: 1, A Menkart and J Kayle (US); 2, J Drew-Bear and Christian Flebbe (Ven); 3, B Buchan and Steve Erickson (US); 4, G Gorla and A Teraboni (It); 5, P Wright and T Cozzens (US). British placings: 24, D Howlett and T Tavinor; 33, I Woolward and J Maddocks; 34, J Boyce and D Munge.
Overall: 1, Menkart and Kayle 27.5 points; joint 1, Buchan and Erickson 25.7; 3, Caynard and Keele 28.7, 4, Gorla and Teraboni 29; 5, Fravetti and Bonelli 41 7.

FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL
AMERICAN LEAGUE: Kansas City Royals 4, New York Yankees 2; Detroit Tigers 8, Minnesota Twins 1; Cleveland Indians 9, Texas Rangers 1; Oakland Athletics 6, Milwaukee Brewers 5.
NATIONAL LEAGUE: Chicago Cubs 5, San Francisco Giants 3; St Louis Cardinals 11, Los Angeles Dodgers 7; Philadelphia Phillies 5, Atlanta Braves 0; Montreal Expos 4, Houston Astros 2; San Diego Padres 5, Pittsburgh Pirates 1.

BASKETBALL
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Boston Celtics 98, Cleveland Cavaliers 85; Washington Bullets 106, Indiana Pacers 84; Detroit Pistons 118, Philadelphia 76ers 115; San Antonio Spurs 137, Los Angeles Lakers 109; Milwaukee Bucks [illegible]; New Jersey Nets [illegible]; Portland Trail Blazers [illegible], Dallas Mavericks [illegible]; New York Knicks 113, Kansas City Kings [illegible]; Denver Nuggets [illegible], Seattle Supersonics [illegible]; Golden State Warriors [illegible], Houston Rockets [illegible].

BOXING
BANGKOK: King's Cup: Featherweight: J. Wanjau [illegible]

TENNIS
BARI, Italy: Grand prix tournament: First round: A Maurer (WG) bt J-L Clerc (Arg), 6–1, 7–5; R Sanchez (Sp) bt B M Hocevar (Bol), 6–4, 6–4; P Rebolledo (Chile) bt F Cancellotti (It), 6–1, 6–3; T Wilkison (US) bt C Castellan (Sp), 6–1, 6–2; *J Avendano (Sp) bt R Arguello* (Arg), 7–5, 6–1; C Barazzutti (It) bt C Panatta (It), 6–7, 6–2, 6–0; G Urpi (Sp) bt R Stadler *(Switz),* 6–2, 6–0; M Freeman (US) bt H-D Beutel (WG), 6–4, 6–3; P Arraya (Peru) bt C Mezzadri (It), 4–6, 6–2, 6–4; L Pimek (Cz) bt S Casal (Sp), 7–6, 6–1; M Martinez (Bol) bt F Segarceanu (Rom), 6–4, 6–3; T Tulasne (Fr) bt R Gehring (WG), 6–1, 7–5; H Sundstrom (Swe) bt H Schwaier (WG), 6–3, 6–4; F Luna (Sp) bt J Aguilera (Sp), 6–4, 6–0; *F Jumys (Arg)* wo C Roger-Vasselin (Fr), sc. J Brown (US) bt M Rodriguez (Arg), 6–3, 6–4. Second round: *Freeman* bt *Arraya* 6–2, 6–4. Urpi bt Barazzutti 6–3, 3–6, 7–6; Pimek bt Martinez 6–4, 4–6, 6–1; Sundstrom bt Toulasne 6–4, 6–0.

INGLEWOOD, California: Women's tournament: Semi-finals: C Lloyd (US) bt L Bonder (US), 6-1, 6–2; A Jaeger (US) bt B Bunge (WG), 4–6, 6–2, 7–5.

HOUSTON: Men's tournament: First round (US unless stated): P Cash (Aus) bt H Solomon, 7–5, 5–7, 6–3; V Amritraj (India) bt E Korita, 6–4, 6–4; S Denton bt B Taroczy (Hung), 6–3, 6–7, 7–6; M Dickson bt M Leach, 6–4, 5–7 6–4.

KUALA LUMPUR: I Lendl (Cz) bt V van Patten (US), 6–2, 6–4, 6–4.

CURLING
DULUTH, Minnesota: World championships: Third round: United States 6, Canada 2; *Switzerland 11, Italy 5; West Germany 8,* Denmark 3; Sweden 6, Austria 0; Norway 6, Scotland 5. Fourth round: United States 5, *Denmark 4; Switzerland 7, Austria 4; Norway 8,* Italy 4; Canada 9, Scotland 4; West Germany 8, Sweden 5.

SNOOKER
BRISTOL: World professional championship: Pre-qualifying round: P Burke bt B Harris, 10-4; P Browne bt C Roscoe, 10–4; M Morra (Can) bt T Murphy, 10–5. Qualifying round: J Parrott bt P Mans (SA), 10–0. Latest scores: M Hallett leads P Burke 6–3; D Martin leads W King 6–3; E Sinclair leads P Browne 5–1; M Morra leads D Reynolds 4–2

CYCLING
WEVELGEM: Ghent to Wevelgem Classic (256km): 1, G Bontempi (It), 6hr 9min 0sec; 2, E Vanderaerden (Bel); 3, P Gavazzi (It), same time. Other placing: 16, S Roche (Ire), same time.

BOARDSAILING
CARNAC: (French unless stated): Fifth race: 1, G Calvet; 2, G Guillerot; 3, M Querrien. Overall: 1, Guillerot; 2, S van den Berg (Neth); 3, F *Gautier. British placing: 9; P Coutts.*

IN BRIEF

Parrott sees odds reduced

John Parrott, Liverpool's 19-year-old snooker sensation, had his odds to win this year's Embassy world professional snooker championship, slashed by half after beating Perrie Mans, 23-times South African champion, 10-0 in a qualifying round match at Bristol.

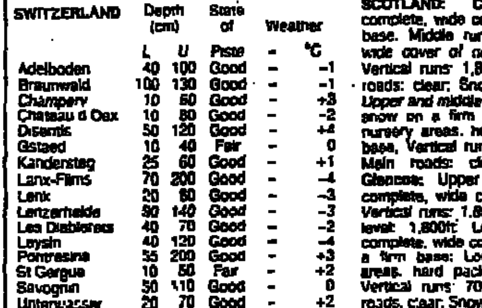
Parrott, 100-1 outsider overnight, was quoted *at 50-1 after handing* Mans his heaviest defeat in 15 years of professional snooker. Mans sighed, "I am not one for excuses" as Parrott rattled in a century break, *101 in the seventh frame, to indicate* his form and send a warning to Tony Knowles, his first round opponent, when the championship proper starts at the Crucible theatre, *Sheffield, later this month.*

CYCLING: Wevelgem, Belgium, (AFP) – Guido Bontempi had the first classic win of his career and *provided the first Italian win in the* Ghent to Wevelgem spring cycling classic since Franceso Moser in *1979* here yesterday *after* a controversial sprint finish with Eric Vanderarden, of Belgium.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Avoriaz	200	400	Good	Pwdr	Good	Fine	–4
New snow on good base							
Crans-Montana	70	170	Good	Heavy	Good	Fine	–4
Beautiful piste skiing							
Flaine	175	400	Good	Varied	Good	Cloud	–2
Good skiing in all areas							
Sauze d'Oulx	80	135	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	–2
Good snow on firm base							
Tignes	170	310	Good	Pwdr	Good	Snow	–4
New snow on firm base							
Val d'Isere	126	223	Good	Pwdr	Good	Snow	1
New snow on good base							
Verbier	60	220	Good	Pwdr	Good	Fine	3
Wonderful powder skiing							
Wengen	30	130	Good	Pwdr	Good	Sun	–1
Excellent skiing in all areas							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain. L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports have been received from tourist boards:



SWITZERLAND	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
Adelboden	40	100	Good	–	–1
Braunwald	100	130	Good	–	–1
Champery	10	60	Good	–	+3
Chateau d Oex	10	80	Good	–	–2
Disentis	50	120	Good	–	+4
Gstaad	10	40	Fair	–	0
Kandersteg	25	60	Good	–	+1
Lanx-Flims	70	200	Good	–	–4
Lenk	20	60	Good	–	–3
Lenzerheide	30	140	Good	–	–3
Les Diablerets	40	70	Good	–	–2
Leysin	40	120	Good	–	–4
Pontresina	55	200	Good	–	+3
St Gergue	10	50	Fair	–	+2
Savognin	50	110	Good	–	0
Unterwasser	20	70	Good	–	+2

SCOTLAND: Cairngorm: Upper runs: complete, wide cover of new snow on a hard base. Middle runs, lower slopes: complete, wide cover of new snow with icy patches: Vertical runs: 1,800ft: Hill roads: clear; Main roads: clear; Snow level: 1,700ft. Glenshee: *Upper and middle runs: complete,* hard packed snow on a firm base: Lower slopes: ample nursery areas, hard packed snow on a firm base, Vertical runs: 1,000ft: Hill roads: clear; Main roads: clear; Snow level: 2,000ft. Glencoe: Upper runs and lower slopes: complete, wide cover of hard packed snow: *Vertical runs: 1,800ft: Hill roads: clear,* Snow level: 1,800ft. Lecht: Upper, Middle runs: complete, wide cover of hard packed snow on a firm base: Lower slopes: ample nursery areas, hard packed snow on a firm base. Vertical runs: 700ft. Hill roads: clear; Main roads: clear; Snow level 2,000ft.

RACING

Bright Oassis again looks an inviting prospect

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

With Wing Velvet, Bright Oassis, Dennis Auburn and Lulav all standing their ground overnight the Old Wolverhampton Book Club Novices' Steeplechase had the makings of being the most interesting race at Ludlow today.

Wing Velvet has dine well to win his last two races at Wincanton and Wolverhampton, especially the one at Wincanton where ha was opposed by Cambir. But the conditions fovoured him that day. Now I wonder whether he will manage to give 7 lb to **Bright Oassis**, who beat Sutton Prince and Misty Fort at Hereford on Saturday to win a valuable prize, sponsored by his owner Colonel Teddy Phillip's company.

No matter how Lulav fares his trainer David Nicholson and jockey Peter Scudamore should not leave the course disappointed. I fancy their chances of winning the H R Attwood Memorial Handicap Steeplechase with **Leander Blue** who will be meeting Upham Pleasure on 9 lb better terms than when he was beaten six lengths by him at Wincanton last month. But for making a mistake at the last fence he would not have been beaten by so much that day.

Filletts Farm my selection for the Oakly Park Challenge Cup, could be the second of two winners for the Letcombe trainer Tim Forster, who is hoping to win the Laughter Conditional Jockeys' Handicap Steeplechase at Wincanton with **Latin American**, who was ridden by Paul Croucher when he won a similar race at Chepstow in December. On that occasion Latin American beat Water Rock who was in good form at the time.

With so many runners at the Somerset meeting, winners will not be easy to come by. Putting safety first I regard **Tawny Myth** as a good, if somewhat unoriginal nap, to maintain his winning sequence in the Pat Ruthven and Guy Nixon Memorial Vase Novices Hunters' Chase.

Taking in point-to-points as well, Tawny Myth is now unbeaten in his last 13 races. His most recent success was at Devon and Exeter last Friday when he won in spite of the fact that his rider, Richard Cake, took things too easily towards the end as he mistakenly thought that there was another circuit to go. Mr Cake has already ridden Tawny Myth to win a similar race over today's course and distance so he is unlikely to make the same mistake again.

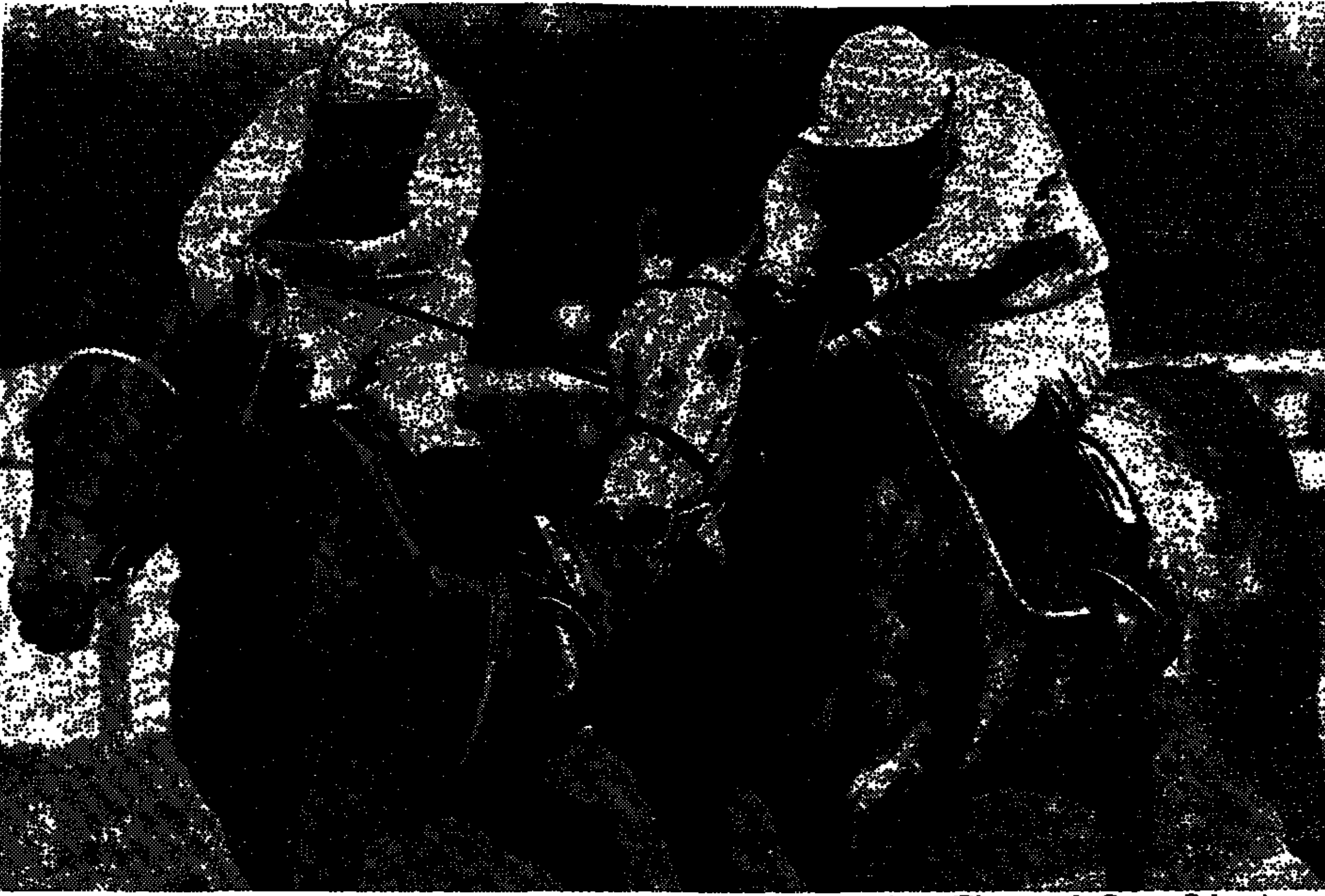
Finally, **Deep Moppet** will be suited by the distance of the Spring Handicap Hurdly judged on the way that she finished towards the end of the race won by Rose Ravine at Newbury last month.

Sangster buys Manton

Robert Sangster has agreed to purchase the historic Manton House estate near Marlborough from John Bloomfield for an undisclosed sum. The estate, which extends to over 2,000 acres of Wiltshire downland, includes 300 acres of gallops over which many classic winners have been trained during the last 100 years, including five Derby winners.

Mr Sangster, chairman of the Vernons Pools organization, sees the acquisition of the estate as not only a further base for his racing and breeding activities but also as a significant property investment for his company.

It is understood that while no definite decision has yet been reached with regard to Whatcombe, which was recently acquired by Mr Sangster from Arthur Budgett, Michael Dickinson will commence training at Manton in the autumn of 1985.



Alastor O Mavros, the grey, holds off Goldspun in the Keith Prowse Hurdle at Ascot (Photograph: George Selwyn)

Cracking day – for bookmakers

By John Karter

Clairvoyants apart, those who thought it financially safer to stick to National Hunt racing while Flat form takes its time to settle down left Ascot yesterday with a lot of egg on their faces and very little in their pockets. Apart from Further Thought, who justified market leadership in the hunters' race, no other favourite succeeded and in three of the races it would really have taken something akin to second sight to have named the one who did.

Perhaps the most extraordinary result, even for those who steadfastly follow the old raing adage of backing the outsider in a three-horse race, came in the Golden Eagle Novices Chase, which looked on paper to be a match between Carved Opal and Charter Party.

However, a certain six-year old gelding named Just For The Crack had other ideas and so, as we learned afterwards, did his young trainer, Kim Bailey, who backed him at 33-1. Just For The Crack had always been highly thought of by Bailey and indeed although he described his horse yesterday as "an idiot" he also referred to him as potentially the best horse he has trained.

The problem has been that while Just For The Crack has looked capable of accelerating past a Maserati at home (only last week he beat a useful Flat horse trained by James Bethell by 20 lengths in a gallop), when he arrives at the racecourse more often than not he contrives to squander that ability.

Mostly this has manifested itself by Just For The Crack setting off at a speed more appropriate to a quarter horse. However, Anthony Webber appears to have a certain empathy with this rather eccentric equine character. Webber had ridden him to victory at Southwell in December and after no less a man than John Francome and Sam Morshead had failed on him subsequently, Webber persuaded the six-year-old to put his best hoof forward again yesterday.

It was all pretty plain sailing, too. Once Just For The Crack, jumping superbly if occasionally to the left, had taken the lead five fences from home and Charter Party had fallen when apparently beaten three fences out, he drew further and further away from the odds-on Carved Opal to win at his leisure.

Francome, who was on Carved Opal, had won the opening race on another much vaunted horse, Hazy Sunset. It was a piece of vintage Francome – a slow steady run from right at the back of the pack to hit the front between the last two hurdles and win comfortably from The Catchpool and the favourite, Penny Bank.

Chasing will be Hazy Sunset's game next year and this fine son of Menelek is surely one to follow. "I'll win the Gold Cp with him before he is 10", Fred Winter joked. Or was it a case of many a true word.

Hazy Sunset was in fact the best-supported winner of the afternoon. Apart from Just For The Crack's success at 20-1, the bookmakers were rubbing their hands in the warm spring sunshine as Alastor O Mavros totally belied his recent form by holding off Goldspun in the Keith Prowse Hurdle; Tom's Littl Al (who may go for the French Grand National) made the hot favourite, Fifty Dollars More, look positively sluggish in the Peregrine Chase and finally Rushmoor at 16-1, held the heavily backed Irish challenger, Boreen Prince, at bay by a nostril in the Kestrel Hurdle.

One interesting factor to arise out of Goldspun's narrow defeat was that this eternal runner-up, who David Nicholson, his trainer, insists is not ungenuine, has now some £38,000 in place money. Not bad for a "quitter".

Naughton finds a bargain

Kingswick, a $200,000 yearling whom Mick Naughton picked up as an unraced three-year-old for only 2,200 guineas, won the Famouse Grouse Maiden stakes at Haydock yesterday on his Flat debut.

Pat Eddery, Kingswick's rider, completed a double when Yellow Domino landed the odds laid on him very easily in the Johnny Osborne handicap, he has ridden eight winners already this season.

Eddery struck the front on Kingswick fully five furlongs out and his mount held the sustained challenge of the favourite Tivan throughout the last quarter of a mile by half a length.

Naughton, who had run Kingswick only once before to finish third in a "bumpers" race at Catterick last month, explained that the colt was too big and backward to run as a two-year-old with Peter Walwyn and injured a stifle the following season. Kingswick is entered for the John Porter Stakes at Newbury a week on Saturday.

Reg Hollinshead's apprentice Willy Ryan also brought off a double at odds of 104-1 when scoring on Lak Lustre and Aqaba Prince.

EQUESTRIANISM

Powell at ease in the Army event

By Jenny MacArthur

Rodney Powell, who has moved from young riders' classes to adult competition with enviable ease, gave a fine display of horsemanship at yesterday's Army Horse Trials at Tidworth, sponsored by MacConnal-Mason Thornycroft, to win two of the novice sections.

His first success came on Miss D. Kent's seven-year-old Catkin of Rushall and the second on Miss S. Jenkinson's Jacob's Lad. It was the third novice win for the 16.3-hand Catkin of Rushall, who is for sale. The horse was formerly owned by Barry Wookey, of Rushall. Powell, who was 22 last Saturday, is based at the Talland School of Equitation in Gloucestershire.

Robert Lemieux, who was second at Brigstock last week on The Gamesmaster, produced another fearless cross-country performance on Miss S. Clement's Gotham Geminis to win the second novice section. They completed the 20-fence course without incurring either jumping or time penalties.

Next week Lemieux competes at Badminton for the first time. Tanya Longson continued her successful season when she finished second to Lemieux on Gang Star, on which she won at Crookham last month.

RESULTS: Novice section I: 1, Catkin of Rushall (R Powell), 41; 2, Rushall Reply (R Dixon), 41; 3, Stammering Sam (J Young), 42. Section II: 1, Gotham Geminis (R Lemieux) 28; 2, Gang Star (T Longson), 39; 3, Allngton Lad (G Feal), 39. Section III: 1, Kennedy (A Grant), 38; 2, Tivydale (L Machucky), 42; 3, The Rum Tum Tugger (G Maybury), 46. Section IV: 1, Jacob's Lad (R Powell), 25; 2, Cornish Mystery (A Smith), 38; 3, Custard (C Creighton), 43. Section V: 1, Masonbrook (J Boyd), 42; 2, Plato (H Braakman), 42; 3, Checkmate (S/Cpl I Sanderson) 44. Section VI: 1, Lord Richard (L Morl), 32; 2, That's Best (S Fry), 35; 3, Eliot (J Severn), 39

BADMINTON

Dates of Thomas and Uber Cups

Kuala Lumpur, (AP) – The Thomas and Uber Cups will be played at the National Stadium from May 7 to May 18.

THOMAS CUP: May 7, Group A: Japan v Malaysia; Group B: Denmark v Sweden; May 8, Group A: England v Indonesia; Group B: China v South Korea; May 9, Group A: England v Japan; Group B: Denmark v China; May 10, Group A: Malaysia v Indonesia; Group B: Korea v Sweden; May 11, Group A: Indonesia v Japan; Group B: Denmark v South Korea; May 12, Group A: England v Malaysia; Group B: China v Sweden; May 13, Rest day; May 14-15, Semi-finals; May 16, Third-fourth placings; May 17, Rest day; May 18, Finals.

UBER CUP: May 7, Group A: Canada v England; Group B: China v Indonesia; May 8, Group A: Korea v Malaysia; Group B: Japan v Denmark; May 9, Group A: England v Malaysia; Group B: Indonesia v Japan; May 10, Group A: Canada v South Korea; Group B: China v Denmark; May 11, Group A: Canada v Malaysia; Group B; China v Japan; May 12, Group A: England v South Korea; Group B: Denmark v Indonesia; May 13, Rest day; May 14-15, Semi-finals; May 16, Third-fourth placings; May 17, Finals.

GOLF

International final is reward for Solihull

By Lewine Mair

Of the 29 schools competing in yesterday's English national final of the school's team championship, run under the umbrella of Aer Lingus and the Golf Foundation at Copt Heath, it is Solihull Sixth Form College who will move on to the international final to be played at Lahinch on May 13.

The scores which gave them the 238 aggregate they needed to defeat Millfield by five shots were, so to speak, a little upside-down. Eisner, their three-handicap man, had an 82 against par of 71. Scrivener (handicap of 4) had a 79 while Adams, off 5, returned the lowest tally, a 77.

Knowing full well that everything rested on his shoulders Adams signed off with a birdie at both the seventeenth and eighteenth holes. Though the master in charge of the winning trio said that the school could not take any of the credit in that golf was not a set sport, all three boys were quick to point out that the fact that they had no difficulty in getting time off for competitions

The organizers had put their foot down when Millfield nominated a pupil who will be celebrating his twentieth birthday later this year. However, the Somerset school had plenty more to choose from, having no fewer than 15 boys currently operating off single figure handicaps.

Of the three who survived the schools' personal qualifying system of six level rounds to play at Copt Heath, it was Jamie Perks who had the distinction of breaking 80.

Connor McGrath, the general manager of Aer Lingus in Great Britain, was saying yesterday that they used to worry that Millfield with its system of golf scholarships would dominate schools' golf to an extent where other establishments might lose interest. That though, has not been the case. While they won twice in the early seventies, they have done little since.

Interestingly, for the past two years the international event, which includes teams from Denmark and Sweden has been won by Welsh schools. First Porthcawl Comprehensive and then John Bright school, Llandudno.

McGrath was also remarking how the powers that be feel they have done much to dispel the old theory that golf is not a team game. The format – medal play with all three competitors' scores counting – is a tough one for boys going through what are arguably their wildest golfing years.

They wasted no time in rushing back on to the course to see how their partners were faring yesterday.

RESULTS. 238. Solihull Sixth Form College (A Eisner 82, A Kevin Scrivener 79, P Adam 77). 243. Millfield (J Uerks 79, P Cook 81, E Mathews 83). 244. King Henry VIII School, Coventry (L Lee 79, W Nicolson 79, D Dunlop 86). 245. Collyers Sixth Form College (J Dodds 78, I Ritchie 78, H Davies 89). 247. St Austell Sixth Form College (A Nash 76, A Bunt 77, D Drewett 94).

RUGBY LEAGUE

Mansfield must wait and hope

By Keith Macklin

The directors of Mansfield will have to wait another fortnight before discovering whether their team will play in the second division next season. A meeting of club representatives was held yesterday in Leeds to consider the Mansfield application, but, surprisingly, no decision was reached. It was decided that further consideration would be given to the Mansfield application, along with those of Sheffield and Runcorn consortia, at another meeting of club representatives on April 18.

Yesterday's decision on Mansfield was deferred because a large number of club representatives felt that all three applications should be dealt with together.

The League will today announce the name of the referee who will officiate at the Wembley Challenge Cup final next month.

The Great Britain Amateur prop forward Dave O'Connor, who plays for the Yew Tree Club in Leeds, has won the Player of the Year award presented annually by the British Amateur Rugby League Association. This is the third time O'Connor has won the award.

John Woods, the leading scorer in the game this season brought his total to 327 points when he scored all 24 points – three tries and six goals – in the 24–18 win by Leigh against Leeds on Tuesday. Ironically Woods has pulled out of the Australasian tour for which he would have been a certain choice, due to business and family reasons.

HOCKEY

Irish women's first win in seven years

By Joyce Whitehead

Northern Ireland won the British Universities women's tournament which ended in Liverpool yesterday It is their first win since 1977. They beat England B, Combined, Scotland and Wales and drew with England A, who were second.

Opportunities went begging in the Scotland and England A match: Fenella Simpson gave Combined an early lead against England B, the latter breaking away twice, with Clare Taylor scoring both times: and Northern Ireland pressed throughout against Wales.

The British Universities team, who were selected at trials after the tournament, will take part in a tournament in Berlin from April 9 to 13. They will play Netherlands and Germany twice. Six men's teams will play in another section.

BRITISH UNIVERSITIES SQUAD: A Allstons (St George's Hospital), C Austin (Bristol), M Brown (Queen's, Belfast), N Chandler (Aberdeen), S Cockerill (Loughborough), L Davidson (Queen's), J Grant (Cardiff), D Heaton (Loughborough), T Henderson (Queen's) L Manson (Edinburgh), L Monahan (Edinburgh), V Moore (Loughborough), K Roderick (London Hospital), C Sargent (Aberdeen), F Simpson (London), S Thomas (Bangor).

RESULTS: Tuesday: Northern Ireland 2, Combined 0. Yesterday: Scotland 0, England A 0; Northern Ireland 4, Wales 0; England B 2 Combined 1 Final placings: 1 Northern Ireland, 2 England A, 3 England B; 4, Scotland, Combined; 6, Wales.

LUDLOW

GOING: Good to firm.

2.15 WESTON SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£741: 2m) (15 runners)

1	233030	TYPESET (D Edwards) J Baker 4-11-10	C Evans 7
2	p02300	THE KNIFE (B) (D) (Miss S Lavery) M James 6-11-9	R Dickin
4	214430	MAJESTIC CUE (D) (BF) (J Fitch-Hayes) J Fitch-Hayes 5-11-5	NONRUNNER
5	332300	HAWAIIAN HEIR (BF) (H White) W Clay 5-11-5	A Webber
7	0o020b	HARBOUR BAZAAR (Mrs M Benn) M C Chapman 4-11-4	K Burke 7
8	21-0210	PETTISTREE (D) (BF) (L Bevan) O O'Neill 6-11-4	NONRUNNER
9	01100b	DEBACH RIVER (D) (J Parfitt) J Parfitt 5-11-3	P Pusey 7
14	000140	RAINBOW SPRINGS (D) (D Tucker) D Tucker 4-10-11	R Millman 4
16	0p0pu	ROCKCLIFFE (M Dale) M Avison 5-10-8	M Dwyer
18	001014	MIDDLETON SUE (D) (R Hodges) R Hodges 5-10-6 (5 ex)	S Earl 7
19	200003	GO LISSAVA (D) (B Bailey) R E Peacock 6-10-3	T Wall
21	0pp033	HENRYS WENCH (A White) R Keenor 5-10-2	C Brown
22	4p032	MISS INIGO (H Webb) H Webb 5-10-2	–
23	p0p200	INADADO (B) (D) (R Williams) R Williams 6-10-1	Mr R Dunwoody 4
25	04/3b0-	CAPTIVE MAIDEN (W Owens) W I Owens 6-10-1	R Stronge 4

7-2 Typeset, 5 Middleton Sue, Miss Inigo, 6 Hawaiian Heir, 7 Debach River, 8 Inadado,

Ludlow selections

By Mandarin

2.15 Majestic Cue. 2.45 Bright Oassis. 3.15 Leander Blue. 3.45 The Thunderer. 4.15 Filletts Farm. 4.45 Finnesko.

2.45 OLD WOLVERHAMPTON BOOK CLUB NOVICE CHASE (£1,154: 2m) (16)

2	220f31	LITTLE TROUBLE (D) (C Hitchings) C Hitchings 8-12-0	R Hyett
3	40221	WING VELVET (D) (M Speding) J Wright 6-12-0	K Mooney
4	2f0321	BRIGHT OASSIS (Lt Col E Phillips) K Bailey 8-11-7	Mr T Thomson Jones
6	03p2u1	DENNIS AUBURN (CD) (Anne Duchess of Westminster) R Francis 7-11-7	H Davies
7	003001	LULAV (P Hamilford) D Nicholson 6-11-7	P Scudamore
8	f3p204	OWEN GLENDOWER (CD) (J Spielman) R Holder 7-11-7	P Richards
11	23004p-	ARTIC FOX (F Mann) W Mann 8-11-0	R Mann
15	0f03p0	BOXBERGER CADLA (Mrs M Jackson) Mrs M Jackson 7-11-0	D Chinn 7
17	000-00p	CAPTAIN PAT (J Baker) J H Baker 8-11-0	G Rippa 7
18	p0p00	CHARLIE THE DANCER (W McKenzie-Coles) W G McKenzie-Coles 11-11-0	Philip Hobbs
21	210p00	GREATEST HITS (R White) J Fitch-Hayes 7-11-0	R Goldstein
23	p00puf	INDIAN DEBT (T Pocock) R E Pocock 6-11-0	–
24	44-23pf	JUBILEE KING (M Rust) M Chapman 6-11-0	K Burke 7
25	0000pp	MORICE (P Carr) P G Bailey 6-11-0	A Webber
26	00-24p	OULART HILL (T Cooper) M Oliver 8-11-0	Mr R Dunwoody 4
42	01/pf	WAYWARD COTTAGE (P Purdy) B Forsey 8-10-9	M Nuttall 4

9-4 Wing Velvet, 3 Lulav, Dennis Auburn, 6 Bright Oassis, 8 Little Trouble,

3 15 H R ATTWOOD MEMORIAL HANDICAP CHASE (£1,926: 3m) (15)

3	314303	GREENBANK PARK (A F Budge Ltd) R Perkins 7-11-9	–
4	f00112	UPHAM PLEASURE (R Brinkworth) D Gandolfo 9-11-6	P Barton
6	344300	BASHFUL LAD (CD) (Mrs F Parkes) M Oliver 9-11-3	Mr R Dunwoody 4
7	23-fp0p	FLAGSTAFF (CD) (Mrs G Luck) T Forster 12-11-2	H Davies

[illegible]

Ascot results

Going: Good

2.0 HEN HARRIER NOVICE HURDLE (£3,401. 2m 4f)

HAZY SUNSET br g by Menelek – Sunset Queen (C Cronin) 7-11-6 J Francome (9-4) 1

The Catchpool ch g by The Ditton – Open Road (D Bill) 5-11-6 S Smith Eccles (8-1) 2

Penny Bank ch g by Key To The Mint – Copernica (P Mellon) 5-11-6 B Reilly (5-4 fav) 3

Also Ran: 14 Hayakaze (4th), Far Rockaway, 25-1 Sunyone, 33 Deep In Debt (p/u), Scotch Princess (5th), 50 Camp Dunphy (6th), Heaton Park, Nikforis, 66 Comra, 100 Knock Cross (p/u), Master Cone, Rayana Air, Rushowen (p/u), Saucy Vulgan, Welcome Handshake, Sweet Koe. 19 ran. 2½, 2½l. F Winter at Lambourn.

TOTE. Win. £3.70. Places. £1.60, £1.40, £1.40 DF: £7.50. CSF: £18.47.

2.30 GOLDEN EAGLE NOVICE CHASE (Grade. £10,727: 2m 4f)

JUST FOR THE CRACK ch g by The Parson – Rosesong (G Wills) 6-11-3 A Webber (20-1) 1

Carved Opal gr g by Arch Sculptor – Pale Maid (Mrs G Abecassis) 6-11-7 J Francome (1-2 fav) 2

Also Ran: 7-4 Charter Party (fell). 3 ran. NR: Duke of Milan. 25l. K Bailey at East Ilsley.

TOTE. Win: £7.20. DF: £2.30. CSF: £28.80.

3 0 KEITH PROWSE LONG DISTANCE HURDLE (£7,947: 3m)

ALISTOR O MAVROS gr h by Tenlam – Carte Noir (M Praticos) 5-11-3 H Davies (9-1) 1

Goldspun b g by Weavers Hall – Abigold (Ld Vestey) 5-11-8 P Scudamore (3-1 fav) 2

Crimson Embers b g by Cheval – Flaming View (Mrs Smart) 9-12-1 S Shilston (100-30) 3

Also Ran: 100-30 Kristenson (4th), 9-2 Mossmorran (6th), 12 Hasty Storm (5th). 6 ran. nk, ½l. Nr: Boreen Prince, Gaye Chance, Fame The Spur. J Gifford at Findon.

TOTE: Win: £11.00. Places. £3.00, £1.50. DF: £10.90 CSF: £31.73.

3.35 PEREGRINE HANDICAP CHASE (£6,766: 2m 4f)

TOM'S LITTLE AL ro g by Polacca – Fleet Street Fifty (T Staddon) 8-10-6 P Scudamore (4-1) 1

Fifty Dollars More b g by Deep Run – Shanestown (Sheikh A A Khamsin) 9-12-0 R Linley (11-8 fav) 2

Menton Castle b g by Precipice Wood – Belge Etoile (R Shaw) 10-10-0 A Webber (40-1) 3

Also Ran: 4 Greenwood Lad (u/r). 6 Bishops Bow (p/u). 12 The Lady's Master (4th).

6 ran Nr Mullacurry. 12l, 4l W Williams at Exeter

TOTE: Win. £3.60. Places: £1.40. £1.80. DF: £2.60. CSF £9.02

4.05 MERLIN HUNTER CHASE (amateurs: £2,442: 3m)

FURTHER THOUGHT b g by Ginger Boy – Smudge (Mrs V Bergh) 8-12-1 T Thomson Jones (11-8 fav) 1

Urser b g by Regusa – Wild Trump (M W Easterby) 10-11-11 R J Beggan (13-8) 2

Bueche Giorod ch g by Blue Cliff – Hopestown (P Harvey) 13-11-4 M Pitman (16-1) 3

Also Ran. 7 Saffron King (4th). 16 Otter Way (6th). 20 Rambling Buck (fell). Flamenco Dancer (fell). 33 Dancing Brig (5th). 100 Pennywaste. 9 ran. 8l, 1½l. Mrs V Bergh at Ludlow.

TOTE: Win £2.40 Places £1.30, £1.80, £2.00. DF: £2.00. CSF: £3.94.

4.40 KESTRAL HURDLE LIMITED HANDICAP (£4,729: 2m)

RUSHMOOR br g by Queen's Hussar – Heathfield (Jim Ennis Construction Ltd) 6-10-11 P Scudamore (16-1) 1

Boreen Prince br g by Boreen – Santaluna (W Lenehan) 5-11-7 N Madden (4-1) 2

Stans Pride b m by Celtic Cone – Columba (Mrs M Morgan) 7-10-10 N Coleman (6-1) 3

Also Ran: 6-2 fav Hill's Guard (6th), 8 Silver Wind, 11 Path of Peace (5th), 12 Cool Decision, 14 Brave Hussar, Great Light, 16 Garfaunkel (4th), 33 Holemoor Star, 40 Mount Harvard (fell). 12 ran. Sh hd, 1½l. R Peacock at Tarporley.

TOTE: Win £16.70. Places £3.10. £2.50. £2.80. DF £50.20. CSF: £76.13. Tricast: £402.51 TOTE DOUBLE: £33.45. TREBLE: £581.10 PLACEPOT £404.40. JACKPOT: not won.

Point results

Dumfriesshire: Hunt: Grapple Adj: Cheerie Chief. L.Op: Flying Ace. Op: Colonel Henry. R.Op: Just a Jiffy. Mdn I: Hatton Law. Mdn II: Omega.

Heythrop: Hunt: Pardalesa. L Op: Brocine Law. Op: Lay-th-Trump. Adj: Heshould. OE & OH: Egbert. Mdn I: Whitsunday. Mdn II: Town Flirt.

OFFICIAL SCRATCHINGS: Whitbread Gold Cup Handicap Chase Sandown: Broomy Bank, Corbiere, Hazy Dawn, Gay Return. All engagements (dead): Double Negative, Nap Artist, Tilthammer Mill, Battleground, Sea Otter, Another Image, Netheraxe Lucy, Goliad Mighty General, Tempest Wave, Hard Knock Sir John Falstaff

TOMORROW'S ADVANCE GOING: Kempton: good. Beverley: good to soft. Kelso: good to soft.

WINCANTON

GOING: Good to firm

2.0 BLUEBELL NOVICE HURDLE (Div I: £792: 2m) (23 runners)

1	f0411p	KYOTO (BF) (B Monkhouse) J Jenkins 6-12-1	H Jenkins 7
2	6p00p1	CRIMSON KNIGHT (D) (Cherry Tree Stables) S Harris 5-11-8	S Smith Eccles
4	1f0220	PLAZA TORO (D) (Mrs I Wilson) S Pattemore 5-11-8	Peter Hobbs 4
5	20010	SILVER MAID (Mrs B Davis) M Pipe 5-11-3	R Dennis 4
6	df321p	WILD CORN (D) (B Akerman) W Fisher 5-11-3	E Waite
7	0p1	SHAMLAN (Mrs S Pattemore 4-11-2	C Cox 7
8	p	BEELEIGH (BF) (Mrs P Blackburn) Miss S Morris 6-11-1	M O'Halloran
13	00	GODS WILL (G Keary) O O'Neill 5-11-1	M Caswell 7
17		HIMORRE (K Higson) A Moore 5-11-1	G Moore
20	p	JUST JOSHUA (D Greig) T Jones 5-11-1	–
21	0	LEO THE LION (Lady Mary FitzAlan Howard) Lady Herries 7-11-1	G Newman
28	4010	WEBWOOD (D) (J Webber) J Webber 4-10-11	G McCourt
32	232/00	MISS ABWAH (Mrs D Scott) D Scott 5-10-10	J Nolan
33		MISS HOUDINI (W Grant) W R Williams 5-10-10	R Linley
35	0-204	OUR GRACIE (B Colohan) T Bulgin 5-10-10	J Lovejoy
38	4u0f4	CRADLE OF JAZZ (K Britten) J Old 4-10-9	P Murphy
40	040	GARY SHAW (Mrs M Jewell) J Jewell 4-10-9	R Hoare
42		SHARAD (H Wills) H Wills 4-10-9	A Madgwick 4
44		STAND FIRM (A Wates) R Gow 4-10-9	M Perrett
45	02	STRIKE LUCKY (BF) (R Buckley) F Winter 4-10-9	J Francome
46	430f02	WITH A LITTLE BIT (B) (Duke of Devonshire) F Walwyn 4-10-9	S Smith
47	0	MISS SHAMROCK (T Stratton Smith) S Christian 4-10-4	–
48		ROODLE DOODLE (O Carter) O Carter 4-10-4	–

1983: Le Vert Galant 5-11-4 R Rowe (11-1) J Thorne 23 ran.

7-2 Webwood, 9-2 Crimson Knight, 5 With A Little Bit, 13-2 Strike Lucky, 8 Plaza Toro, Wild Corn, 10 Himorre, 12 Cradle Of Jazz, Shamlan, 16 others.

2.30 PAT RUTHVEN AND GUY NIXON MEMORIAL VASE HUNTER CHASE (Amateurs: £725: 3m 1f) (16)

2	11	TAWNY MYTH (CD) (R Cake) R Cake 10-12-10	R Cake 7
5		BRITFORD STEPS (Dr R Jowett) R Jowett 9-12-0	M Felton 7
6	p3/28-0	CRESPINIAN (M Bell) J Edwards 10-12-0	M Bell 7
7		DART OVER (P Pocock) P Pocock 8-12-0	–
8	fpppp/0	EXPRESS ORCHID (B) (A Oldham) A Oldham 11-12-0	H Jane 7
13	04	MILLSTREAM (E Farr) E Farr 8-12-0	I Johnson 4
14	p0	PENSHAM'S SON (Mrs G Pritchard) Mrs G Pritchard 10-12-0	M Pritchard 7
15	02	QUINNER (BF) (P West) P West 8-12-0	S West 7
16	ppf424	ROMULEX (Mrs J Bainbridge) Mrs J Bainbridge 8-12-0	Miss A Dare 7
17	00f0-ff	ROYAL AND RARE (Mrs J French) Mrs J French 7-12-0	Miss S French 7
18		SCARLET MAN (N Walsley) N Walsley 8-12-0	–
19	30-p033	SIDBURY HILL (S Pike) S Pike 8-12-0	C Down 7
20	p0f/	STOURHEAD (C Green) C Green 13-12-0	G Upton 7

[illegible]

23	0002/04	KALE BRIG (Mrs F Bowden) Mrs F Bowden 9-11-9	Miss J Blakeney 7

1983: Withen Wood 10-11-10 Mrs J Hembrow (9-4 fav) R Winslade 5 ran.

5-6 Tawny Myth, 4 Quinner, 5 Swanly, 8 Sidbury Hill 14 Kale Brig, 20 others.

FORM: TAWNY MYTH, Devon winner last week. (11-7) beat Ballynough (12-0) 4l here previous start (3m 1f, £2493, good to firm, Mar 8). EXPRESS ORCHID (11-7) made running for long way when 8th to Urser (11-12) at Newbury (3m, £1,105, soft, Mar 24). QUINNER (11-7) 1½l 2nd to Matt Murphy (11-12) at Devon (2m 6f, £734, good to soft, Mar 31). ROMULEX 4th last time, earlier 15l 2nd (12-7) to Dickie Blob (12-7) with MILLSTREAM tailed off (Leicester, 3m, £550, soft, Feb 27). SIDBURY HILL (12-0) 2l 3rd to Crozbridge (12-0) at Taunton, with CRESPINIAN (12-0) further 48l away in 5th (3m 1f, £1,106, good to soft, Mar 29). SWANLY (11-9) ½l 2nd to Matt Murphy (12-0) at Towcester (2m 6f, £449, good, Mar 22).

Selection: TAWNY MYTH.

3.0 PETER JOLLIFFE BOOKMAKER LTD NOVICE CHASE (£2,006: 2m 5f) (10)

1	021310	ROCK SAINT (G Gregson) G Gregson 7-11-12	G Newman
2	1u0u04	MEMBERSON (P Dufosee) P Dufosee 6-11-7	Mr G Maundrell
3	fu410e	NORTH LANE (G Blagrove Ltd) K Bishop 7-11-7	J Hurst 7
4	b02321	TARQOGAN'S CHOICE (M Wickens) J Edwards 7-11-7	N Madden
5	00-u02p	BEACONSIDE (N Brooks) J Brooks 7-11-2	P Croucher 7
6	4p0004	BLACK ROD (R Baxter) N R Mitchell 7-11-2	B Powell 7
10	2ff029	SPANISH STREAK (Mrs M Ewbank) J Fox 7-11-2	S Moore 4
11	000000	TUDOR BOB (A Allright) R Atkins 6-11-2	A Madgwick 4
12	440041	VALESO (B) (T Forde) J King 6-11-2	J Francome
13	000333	FLYING MISTRESS (T Bell) J Webber 6-10-11	G McCourt

1983: Western Sunset 7-11-12 H Davies (6-4 fav) T Forster 19 ran.

11-8 Tarqogan's Choice, 5-2 Rock Saint, 9-2 Valeso, 8 Flying Mistress, 12 Spanish Steak, 16 North Lane. 20 others.

3.30 SPRING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,776: 2m 6f) (26)

1	300-000	SLEEPLESS KNAVE (M Bradstock) F Walwyn 9-11-13	Mr M Bradstock 7
2	p3ff0	SOLID ROCK (R Cottle) D Barons 8-11-13	–
6	0/00020	KING HUSTLER (F George) N Henderson 7-11-9	P Croucher 7
8	000000	ANOTHER DEED (C Lakin) B Palling 8-11-2	–
11	0001p2	JOHN WILLOUGHBY (A Aylett) A Aylett 6-10-13	G Jones
13	40f030	MOST FUN (W Sturt) J Old 6-10-11	P Murphy
15	p30100	FLOATING LOVER (C Mitchell) N R Mitchell 5-10-9	B Powell 7
16	40342f	CROSS MASTER (BF) (Mrs P Flight) T Bill 7-10-9	Mr G Williams 7
18	0300f0	RIBOT STAR (T El Karib) J Fox 5-10-6	N Hunter 7
19	01122/0	TRIBLE SECRET (R Hallett) C Popham 8-10-6	–
21	4-124up	SQUARE-RIGGED (Lady Elizabeth Scott) A Turnell 7-10-5	Steve Knight
22	0/00pp0	TANGLE BRIAR (D) (P Cundell) P Cundell 9-10-4	Michael Rimmer 7
23	042004	PARTY MISS (B Curtis) W Fisher 9-10-4	E Waite
25	010402	BEN EWEN (Mrs A McEwan) D Nicholson 5-10-3	W Hayes 7
27	00400p	TANGLO (T Richards) D H Jones 7-10-1	NON-RUNNER
28	20444p	DROPSHOT (D) (G Moses) G Balding 9-10-1	B Reilly
29	0032p0	RARE DANCER (Mrs P Blackburn) Miss S Morris 4-10-1	M O'Halloran
30	104f32	DEEP MOPPET (Parrish Bros Ltd) D Gandolfo 8-10-0	M Richards 4
31	100pf0	ROSA RULER (G Berry) I Wardle 8-10-0	–
32	102200	SWEET SOLICITOR (B) (V Nash) J King 5-10-0	A Webb
33	0-4pof3	QUEEN MEANDER (Mrs T Stopford-Sackville) N Henderson 8-10-0	S Smith Eccles
35	30400p	SWIFT ENCOUNTER (B) (N Thomson) N Thomson 5-10-0	Mr J Mitchell 4
36	3400f0	PAPERACER (A Parton) B Preece 5-10-0	W Knox 7
37	30-0000	HASTY KATE (L Tory) L Tory 5-10-0	B de Haan
38	13010-b	SUMMERCOVE (K Higson) A Moore 8-10-0	G Moore
39	0-f0000	CHERRY PIT (D Jackson) D Jackson 6-10-0	–

1983: Fama The Spur 5-10-0 B de Haan (25-1) Mrs J Pitman 15 ran.

4 Deep Moppet, 11-2 Ben Ewen, John Willoughby, 13-2 King Hustler, 8 Dropshot, Queen Meander, 10 Cross Master, 12 Sleepless Knave, Most Fun, 14 others.

FORM: KING HUSTLER (10-10) 19½l 5th to Jorge Miguel (10-6) (Lingfield 2m 4f, £6,263, good, Mar 17). JOHN WILLOUGHBY (11-7) 6l 2nd to Glyde Court (11-7) (Lingfield 2m, £548, good, Mar 17). MOST FUN (10-3) 17l 6th to Fortune Cookie (10-0) with SLEEPLESS KNAVE (11-6) 9th (Sandown 2m 5f, £2,085, good, Feb 17). FLOATING LOVER 9th last time, earlier (11-0) 2½l winner from Inchgower (11-10) (Cheltenham 2m 4f, £1,528, good to firm, Dec 9). PARTY MISS (10-7) 14¾l 4th to Fitzherbert (10-8) with RIBOT STAR (10-7) out of first 9 (Worcester 2m 2f, £1,627, good to soft, Feb 29) BEN EWEN (10-0) head 2nd to Fair City (10-1) (Nottingham 2m 6f, £1,270, good, Mar 20). DEEP MOPPET (10-7) 1½l 2nd to Rose Ravine (12-0) (Newbury 2m 4f, £4,705, soft, Mar 24) QUEEN MEANDER (10-6) 18l 3rd to My Brave (10-10) with DROPSHOT (10-11) 3l back in 4th (Nottingham 2m 6f, £1,259, good, Jan 9).

Selection: DEEP MOPPETT.

Wincanton selections

By Mandarin

2.00 With A Little Bit. 2.30 TAWNY MYTH (nap). 3.0 Tarquogan's Choice. 3.30 Deep Moppet. 4.0 Latin American. 4.30 Rythmic Pastimes. 5.0 Eagle Tavern. 5.30 Winter Measure.

4.0 LAUGHTER CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP CHASE (£1,482: 2m) (13)

1	41110p	SPINNING SAINT (D) (Miss S Wills) K Bailey 10-12-7	–
2	f30124	LUCYFAR (D) (R Smith) F Walwyn 8-12-3	R Chapman
6	2-10121	LATIN AMERICAN (D) (J Ritchie) T Forster 7-11-6	P Croucher
9	f432u0	TUDOR ROAD (D) (A Stoddart) L Kennard 9-11-2	L Bloomfield
12	14p2p4	TEN BEARS (D) (Air Cdre C Kunkler) T M Jones 8-10-11	G Charles-Jones
14	f20313	RUN TO ME (N Mitchell) N R Mitchell 9-10-10 (10 ex)	B Powell 4
15	f41042-	LESELUC (D) (G Moses) G Balding 8-10-9	S Moore
16	/2111p-	MINER'S SONG (D) (Mrs S Pattemore) S Pattemore 8-10-8	C Cox 4
17	310p04	APPLEJO (B) (B Chinn) B Chinn 8-10-8	S Mackey 7
18	4000/p-	SOCKS (Miss L Aitken) H O'Neill 11-10-7	R Arnott 4
21	20pf00	PEA COCK ADE (T Sivlter) C Miller 8-10-7	M Caswell
22	1uoofp	BRITANNICUS (D) (N Thomson) N Thomson 8-10-7	J Hurst 4
23	032/034	MANSTON MARAUDER (Lt Col E Harries) J Fox 8-10-7	NON-RUNNER

1983: Nampara Cove 8-10-7 A Madgwick (5-2) B Wise 6 ran.

11-4 Lucyfar, 7-2 Latin American, 5 Spinning Saint, 13-2 Applejo, 8 Ten Bears, 10 Run To Me, 12 Leseluc, Tudor Road, 14 others.

FORM: SPINNING SAINT slipped on landing Sandown last week, previously (10-6) 14l 6th to

[illegible]

Haydock Park results

GOING: Good

2 15 (5f) 1, BRAMPTON GRACE (W Wharton 7-2); 2, Hunslet (M Birch 9-2); 3, Rosie Dickins (S Perks 2-1 Fav) Also ran: 3 Julia Bravo (6th), 8 Fordham's Fancy (4th), 12 Northern Ballerina (5th). 6 ran. NR: Lesley Wheeler. 1½l, 6l. W Wharton at Melton Mowbray. Tote: £4.00; Pl: £2.00, £2.20. DF: £6.80. CSF: £18.44. 1m 4.37s.

3.45 (5f) 1, LAK LUSTRE (W Ryan 6-1); 2, Reesh (T Ives 5-2 fav); 3, Singing Sailor (B Raymond 4-1). Also ran: 11-4 Our Dynasty (5th), 15-2 El Gazebo (6th), 14 Clantime (4th), 16 Shanley's Style, 20 Shasta Sam. 8 ran. Head, 1½l. R Fisher at Ulverston. Tote: £8.50; £1.10, £1.60, £1.60. DF: £9.20. CSF: £20.95. 1m 1.76s.

[illegible]

GOLF

Faldo turns with a fresh swing to Greensboro

From Mitchell Platts, Greensboro, North Carolina

Nick Faldo moves into the Greater Greensboro Open on the Forest Oaks course here today with his confidence fully restored. He has adjusted his swing after a minor fault. In scoring 69 in the final round of the Tournament Player's Championship last Sunday he proved the success of the adjustment.

Followers of Faldo's career worried about how he would handle the revelation taht there was a new woman in his life. They feared that the publicity about his marital troubles might disturb his concentration.

Falso, however, has demonstrated his growing maturity. He missed the halfway cut in the Hawiian Open during the week when his private life became public; but since then he has managed to maintain the momentum in his game.

The only problem troubling Faldo was a sudden impulse to "chop down" on the ball. It produced the kind of wayward shot uncharacteristic of his finely grooved game. It led to the inconsistency of having a 79 and 67 in one tournament last month.

It was around this time last year that Faldo worked on a swing change with the American, Mark O'Meara, with the aim of opening his hands more at the takeaway and develop a flatter turn with more room to work. It worked. Faldo returned to Europe soon after and won three tournaments in succession on the way to claiming the top position in the official money list.



Westward ho: Faldo sees America with new eyes

Faldo knows that the next step in his career must be to win in the United States. Greensboro offers a fine opportunity since he emphasized his liking for the course by finishing sixth here last year. Peter Oosterhuis and Bernard Langer add to the European flavour of the tournament.

Severiano Ballesteros has joined the likes of Tom Watson and Jack Nicklaus in heading for Augusta to practis for the US Masters next week. Even with these absentees, it will be far from easy to win in Greensboro, with Lanny Wadkins defending the title.

Charterhouse have a triple in mind

By Nicholas Keith

Sixty years have passed since the Halford Hewitt Cup was first contested by teams of the Public Schools Golfing Society. When the 53rd competition begins today at Deal and Sandwich, Charterhouse will start as favourite.

They have 13 victories to their credit and are attempting their third win in a row; they were also beaten finalists in 1981. They play all their matches at Deal, where the final two days are staged on Saturday and Sunday, and they have a good draw with an opening match against Gresham's.

Watson's, the last team to beat Charterhouse, when they won three years ago, have fallen at the first hurdle in the last two years. They are in the same half of the draw as Charterhouse, and so are Eton, the first winners who have not triumphed since 1969 or even reached the semi-finals since 1971.

In the lower half of the draw there is a tough corner involving Malvern, Rossall, and Rugby. Rossall, who have appeared in three semi-finals in the last five years, have a hard asssignment in their first round match against Tunbridge which takes place at Sandwich tomorrow.

Peter Ryde, who was golf correspondent of *The Times* from 1953 to 1981, is compiling a book on the Halford Hewitt for the society and it is hoped that this will be published this autumn. He has run the results of every match through a computer which, not surprisingly, predicts a semi-final between Eton and Charterhouse at the top, and Harrow and Rugby with Charterhouse to beat Harrow in the final.

Rising star

Ke Li Peh, a 14-year-old Taiwanese, will be one of 141 golfers chasing a $20,000 first prize in the Taiwan open beginning in Taipeh today. He is believed to be the youngest player to compete in a professional tournament.

AMERICA'S CUP

Swiss want to enter

Lausanne (Reuter) – Switzerland hope to enter the challenge series for the 1987 America's Cup off Perth, Western Australia, with a yacht named Helvetia, it was announced here yesterday. Geneva and Zurich yachting clubs have formed a Swiss America's Cup association which will organize the project with a budget of over 5m Swiss francs ($2.3m).

The Swiss announcement comes three weeks after a group of Chicago yachtsmen, who do their sailing 800 miles from the nearest sea coast on the Great Lakes, said that they wanted to mount a challenge for the cup.

The Chicago syndicate face the difficult task of convincing the Royal Perth Yacht Club – home of the cup after Australia II's victory off Newport, Rhode Island, last year – that the Great Lakes are an 'arm of the sea'. The rules of the contest specify that cup competitors must hold their regattas at sea or on an extension of the sea. A New York state court is expected to make a ruling on the syndicate's claim.

● New York (AFP) – The New York Yacht Club, which lost the America's Cup for the first time in 132 years last year to Australia II, have issued a formal challenge to the Royal Perth Yacht Club, the new holders of the trophy. The challenge is the first step by the club in their quest to retrieve the cup, which they had never previously lost since winning when it was first contested off the Isle of Wight in 1851.

Chuck Kirsch, manager of the newly-formed America II challenge, said that he paid the required $12,000 entry fee on Tuesday.

SWIMMING

Darlington Olympic darlings

By Athole Still

Competition for places in Britain's swimming team for the Los Angeles Olympics starts in earnest tomorrow at the Arena national short course championships at the Dolphin Centre, Darlington.

The four-day competition is an important opener for world class stars like Adrian Moorhouse, June Croft, and Ann Osgerby, and Sarah Hardcastle and Jackie Willmott.

For other meeting contenders the chance of competing in the Olympics is still swimming's most glittering prize and will inspire many records, personal best performances and close racing in Darlington's new 25 metre pool despite the fact that Olympic qualifying times will have to be recorded later in the season in Olympic size 50-metre courses.

With the notable exception of Moorhouse, who is likely to show world class in the breaststroke events, our top men are training and studying in the United States and Canada and are unlikely to compete in this country much before the Olympic trials at the end of May.

It means that most quality performances will come in the women's events with Croft going for five titles in the free-style events and the 200 metres individual medley. Although she looks unbeatable in the 100metre and 200 metre free-style she faces strong challenges in the other events.

The consistently improving 14-year-old Sarah Hardcastle is her main rival in the 400 and 800 metres free-style along with Annabelle Cripps.

RACKETS

Generalship of Harrow too good for Wellington

By William Stephens

David Dick and Stephen Segrave gave Harrow victory in the Public Schools doubles championship at Queen's Club yesterday when they defeated David Mallinson and Anthony Gordon of Wellington, 15-8, 15-0, 5-15, 15-10, 15-12.

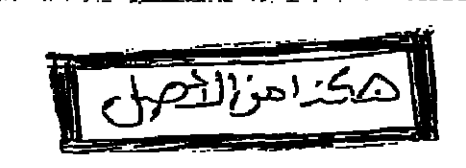
Decisive factors were Dick's leadership in the rallies in which he played forward in attacking style and out-generalled the Wellington first string Mallinson, and the Harrovians' service: Dick served with aggression and the left-handed Segrave with precision. Harrow stormed to a 2-0 lead but Wellington after two 7-game matches were no strangers ot wars of attrition.

They mounted a counter-offensive serving to 7-0 and won the third game. The fourth game was tight, Wellington gaining service at 11-10 up but each server was put out immediately. Segrave served through the game and until 10-0 in the fifth.

Harrow last won the championship in 1979, and this is the first success for the partnership of Roger Crosby and his son Martin, the school professionals. In 1951 Roger Crosby teamed up with his father Fred, who had been the professional since 1922. Wellington's fine run is a reward for Shannon Hazell, their professional who is leaving for the New York Racquet Club in September.

Colum Crichton-Stuart and Michael Smythe-Osbourne of Eton won the Second Pairs Cup, defeating Nicholas Shaw and Matthew Smallwood, of Tonbridge, by 15-6, 15-11, 15-11, 18-15. Tonbridge were jaded after reaching the semi-finals.

La crème de la crème



International Appointments

UAE RADIO AND TELEVISION DUBAI
NEWS SECTION
NEWS READER/EDITORIAL POSTS

The English Language section of UAE Radio and Television Dubai, United Arab Emirates invites applications from suitably experienced Radio and Television Newsreaders or Newsroom Editorial staff for a number of Newsreader/Editorial posts.

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C. Must have wide experience or knowledge of modern electronics, telegraphy, computers, television, and digital techniques, including supervision of maintenance and training facilities.

D. Must be conversant with the principles of instructions, be able to develop course syllabus, evaluate the effectiveness of training and make suggestions to improve it.

Applicants for these posts should be aware that there are no educational facilities for non-Italian speaking children in Latina.

Desirable Qualifications:

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C. Experience of the organization of training and knowledge of statistics and their applications.

Emoluments are according to NATO Scales and exempt from taxation and include as applicable head of family, children and expatriation allowances.

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Detailed curriculum (in English) must be forwarded not later than 20th April 1984 To:–

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LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE MATTER of LEISURE ZONE Limited and IN THE MATTER of THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948

NOTICE is hereby given that the creditors of the above-named Company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 8th day of May, 1984, to send in their full Christian and surnames, their adresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned P. Monjack FCA of 3/4 Bentinck Street, London, W1A 3BA the Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

Dated this 28th day of March 1984

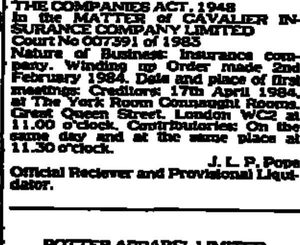
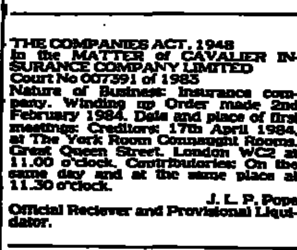
P. MONTJACK
Liquidator

MOLEKARN LIMITED T/A R J COMPANY

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 293 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a MEETING of the creditors of the above named Company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co. situated at 3/4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA on Thursday the 19th day of April 1984 at 12.00 o'clock midday, for the purposes provided for in Sections 294 and 295.

Dated the 30th day of March 1984

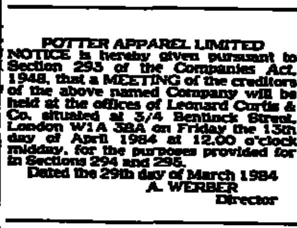
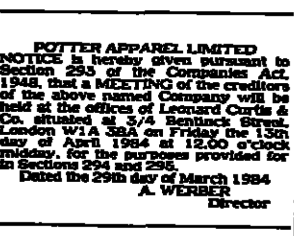
Mrs. R. A. MANN
Director

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948
In the MATTER of CAVALIER INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED
Court No 007391 of 1983

Nature of Business: Insurance company. Winding up Order made 2nd February 1984. Date and place of first meetings: Creditors: 17th April 1984, at The York Room Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, London WC2 at 11.00 o'clock. Contributories: On the same day and at the same place at 11.30 o'clock.

J. L. P. Pope
Official Reciever and Provisional Liquidator.

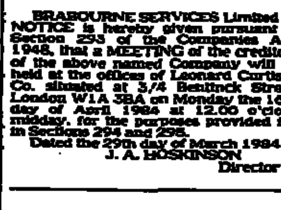
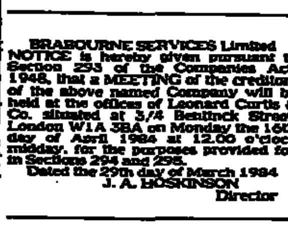



POTTER APPAREL LIMITED

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 293 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a MEETING of the creditors of the above named Company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co. situated at 3/4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA on Friday the 13th day of April 1984 at 12.00 o'clock midday, for the purposes provided for in Sections 294 and 295.

Dated the 29th day of March 1984

A. WERBER
Director

BRABOURNE SERVICES Limited

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 293 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a MEETING of the creditors of the above named Company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co. situated at 3/4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA on Monday the 16th day of April 1984 at 12.00 o'clock midday, for the purposes provided for in Sections 294 and 295.

Dated the 29th day of March 1984

J. A. HOSKINSON
Director

In the Matter of AIR-TRUCK INTERNATIONAL Limited

By Order of the High Court of Justice dated 13 July 1983 Roger Howell Buckman of 7 Old Steine, Brighton BN1 1GA has been appointed Liquidator of the above Company.

Dated 26 March 1984.

In The Matter of EUROPA TRADE LIMITED

BY Order of the High Court of Justice dated 2 February 1983 Roger Howell Buckman of 7 Old Steine, Brighton BN1 1GA has been appointed Liquidator of the above Company.

Dated 26 March 1984.

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This position is open to applicants between 28 and 40.

Good salary, commission, company car is offered.

Applications with full C.V. will be treated in the strictest confidence and should be addressed to:–

The Managing Director

Sign Space Displays Ltd
Vallance Byways Gatwick, Lowfield Heath Road, Charlwood, Surrey RH6 0BT

GRADUATE TRAINEES
Sales and Administration

A fast growing, profitable division of a UK public company is offering a unique opportunity for two graduates, aged 21-24, with a minimum 2.2 degree.

A programme of work experience will include a broad yet detailed involvement in the commercial activities of the division and lead towards significant career opportunities.

Applicants should write, enclosing a CV, to Managing Director, SVI plc, Garth Road, Morden, Surrey, SM4 4LP.

TRAINEE SALES REPRESENTATIVE
UP TO £7,500 aae + PROFIT SHARING

Full product and Sales Training are offered by this large British company with excellent career prospects. If you are 21+ with A levels and work experience or a graduate, have a clean driving licence, then please phone for an immediate interview. Fabulous fringe benefits including Company car. Derek Cast

Mistprestige Rec Cons
64-62 Regent St, London, W1. 01-437 1600

HALIFAX BUILDING SOCIETY
ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER (FINANCE)
circa £25,000+Car+Benefits

A qualified Accountant is required to join the Executive of the Society. The person appointed will be required to assist in the development of financial and accounting systems and will be offered responsibility and challenge in the development of the World's No.1 Building Society.

Applicants for this new post should have several years post qualifying experience in a senior capacity, preferably in the financial sector.

The Society offers good working conditions and progressive salary and the usual benefits including a staff mortgage scheme.

Applications will be treated confidentially and should be addressed to: General Manager (Staff), Halifax Building Society, PO Box 60, Trinity Road, Halifax, West Yorkshire HX1 2RG, and should be clearly marked "H.G. Private."

They should contain full personal and career details

NEWLY QUALIFIED ACCOUNTANTS

- Our Client, an international record company require a Finalist/Newly qualified Management Accountant. Experience of stock accounting would be preferable but not essential. Must be able to communicate at all levels. Salary circa £13,500 + Bonus.
- Our Client, the UK subsidiary of a major Scandinavian group, require a newly qualified Management Accountant. Knowledge of computers would be advantageous as development of computer systems and techniques will be one of the initial tasks. Large company benefits. Salary circa £13,000 + car.
- Our Client, a fast expanding marketing organisation, urgently require a Chief Accountant. The company has increased their T/O by 300% in past 2 years, so prospects to grow with company are excellent. This is a definite career move from the profession. Salary circa £12,500 + Negotiable benefits package.

These are a small selection of our current vacancies.

All applicants male or female should contact Rob Strippel on 01-638 2683.
SOS Accountancy Division: 5th Floor, 18–25 Eldon Street, London EC2.

SOS
ACCOUNTANCY DIVISION

Financial and Administrative Manager

Orbec Ltd., a young, rapidly expanding, high technology company, seeks the services of a Financial and Administrative Manager.

The successful applicant will become responsible for all aspects of routine financial operation, in addition to maintaining and developing contacts in the City's financial community.

Responsible to the Managing Director, the person appointed will assume responsibility for the day-to-day management of the company in his absence.

We seek a professionally qualified, highly motivated individual, capable of working in a high technology environment on his/her own initiative. Expertise and interest in the administration of sales, production and distribution in a small company environment is a prime requirement, as is a sense of humour.

A competitive salary and benefits package will be earned and there are prospects of board representation and equity participation in the future.

Apply in writing, stating how the above requirements are met, to: THE MANAGING DIRECTOR, Orbec Ltd., 87 Limpsfield Road, Sanderstead, Surrey, CR2 9LE.

Sales and Marketing

MARKETING & DIRECT MAIL ASSISTANT

A lively, enthusiastic person is required to administer our direct response programme.

This responsible position requires marketing and/or direct mail experience together with secretarial abilities, a high level of initiative and the ability to communicate at all levels.

For more information contact Richard Dunley, on 231 8171.

STRATEGIC MARKETING CONSULTANCY

TECHNOMIC CONSULTANTS is a major international industrial strategic marketing consultancy.

The European subsidiary, headquartered in Geneva, is now looking for consultants to join a small, growing UK office (shortly to relocate to Epsom).

The ideal candidate would have a technical background, be aged 25 to 35, able to work with minimum supervision and preferably competent in French and German.

Please apply to: TECHNOMIC CONSULTANTS, 15 Falcon Road, LONDON SW11 2PH

PUBLIC NOTICES

REGISTRATION OF RESTRICTIVE TRADING AGREEMENTS

1. The Director General of Fair Trading has laid before Parliament new Regulations* under the Restrictive Trading Practices Act 1976.
2. The Regulations alter the arrangements for providing details of restrictive trading agreements. They replace those made in 1976**. The principal changes are that:
 (a) A single clarified certificate will cover all the circumstances in which details of restrictive trading agreements are sent to the Office of Fair Trading. This replaces the four separate certificates currently in use.
 (b) The number of copies of documents needed is reduced from three to two.
 (c) There is a new address to which the certificates are to be sent.
3. The Regulations will come into force on 18 April 1984. From that date the new certificate should be used in all cases. Supplies of the new certificate are available free from the Office Of Fair Trading, Chancery House, 53 Chancery lane, London WC2A 1SP – by post from the Distribution Unit or on personal application at the Public Room 517.

* The Registration of Restrictive Trading Agreements Regulations 1984 (Statutory Instrument Number 1984/392).
** The Registration of Restrictive Trading Agreements Regulations 1976 (Statutory Instrument Number 1976/183).

PUBLIC NOTICES

OFFICIAL NOTICE
PROPOSAL TO CHANGE A SHIP'S NAME

We JAMES FISHER and SONS PLC of Fisher House, PO Box 4, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria La14 1HR, Owners of the Merchant ship "JERSEY FISHER" of Barrow, official number 358157 of gross tonnage 829.30 tons, of register tonnage 389.94 tons propose to change her name to "LOCH AWE". Any objections must be sent to the Registrar General of Shipping and Seamen, Llantrisant Road, Cardiff CF5 2YS, within seven days of the appearance of this advertisement.

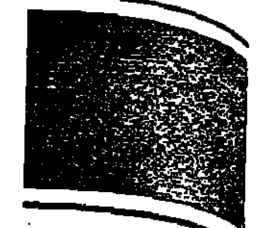
Signed William Eccles
Chairman and Chief Executive
Dated 30th March 1984

OFFICIAL NOTICE – Proposal to change ship's name

We, Dragoon Limited, c/o Moore, Stephens & Co., P.O. Box 236, Equity & Law House, La Motte Street, St Helier, Jersey, Channel Island, owners of motor yacht "Parabusch", registered at London, official number 398976, registered length 145 feet 9 inches, propose to change her name to "Paris". Any objections must be sent to the Registrar General of Shipping and Seamen, Llantrisant Road, Cardiff CF5 2YS, within seven days of the appearance of this advertisement.

By authority of Dragoon Limited.
Signed John S. Latsis (London) Ltd. (as agents)

Date 4th April, 1984





Public Appointments

INLAND REVENUE STAFF FEDERATION

Applications are invited for a

NEW SENIOR POST – EDUCATION, TRAINING AND CAMPAIGNING OFFICER

Salary scale £11,329 – £17,906 inclusive of London Weighting.

6 weeks leave: non-contributory superannuation.

Whoever is appointed will have the experience and qualifications to analyse in detail education and training needs of officers at each level in the union; to define precisely the purpose of elements of training; and to run IRSF programmes, but not to be a "travelling teacher".

The campaigning role flows naturally from this.

For further details:
Mrs Kelly – 01-834 8254.

Detailed applications (5 typed copies please) by 27 April to:

Tony Christopher,
General Secretary,
Inland Revenue Staff Federation,
Douglas Houghton House,
231 Vauxhall Bridge Road,
London SW1V 1EH.

DIRECTOR

THE CRAFTS COUNCIL wishes to appoint a successor to the present Director, Victor Margrie, who will be leaving during 1984. Applications are invited from persons who are knowledgeable, enthusiastic and concerned about the work of artist craftsmen and women.

Preference will be given to applicants with a practical, professional, or academic knowledge of one or more fine crafts. A good visual sense is of paramount importance as is a knowledge and understanding of craftsmen and women and their methods of work. Above all, candidates should have the capability to manage the administration and finances of an organization which undertakes a wide range of activities including exhibitions, education, publications, retailing and support for individuals and organizations. The Council has a staff of approximately 50 and earns a proportion of its income from its various activities.

The Director is responsible to the Council, whose members are appointed by the Minister for the Arts, for the implementation and development of its policies and the management of its activities and staff. The successful candidate is likely to have gained experience in senior management in a similar organization or possibly an academic institution. He or she must be prepared to travel frequently at home and abroad and to represent the Council at a high level. The preferred upper age limit is 50, although applications will be considered from outstanding candidates above this limit.

The salary is at present in the range £16,855 to £22,044 per annum depending upon age and experience. There is a non-contributory index-linked pension scheme, and other conditions are broadly comparable with those of the Civil Service. For further information and an application form please write personally to the Chairman (ref: D/CC), Crafts Council, 8 Waterloo Place, London SW1Y 4AT.
Closing date for receipt of completed applications:

27 April 1984.

*crafts*council

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

£20,862 (3 x £423) £22,131

If you have a proven record of achievement and leadership at top level, you are invited to apply for the above post.

The successful man or woman will be head of the Council's paid service and leader of the Management Team and will be responsible for ensuring that there is a co-ordinated approach to the work of the Authority which is situated in a growth area of North Nottinghamshire.

Applicants, of any discipline, should have extensive experience in management and be capable of providing leadership to both Officers and Members.

In particular, the successful applicant will possess the personal qualities necessary to lead and motivate others to the highest standards of performance in achieving the Council's objectives.

In addition to the stated salary, the post carries a car allowance plus fees for election duties.

The Council operates a scheme of re-location expenses.

Applicants should write for an application form to the Personnel Officer, Central Depot, Hundred Acre Lane, Carlton Forest, Worksop S81 0TS, or telephone him on Worksop 475531. Extension 136.

Closing date: 20th April, 1984.

BASSETLAW DISTRICT COUNCIL

WESTMINSTER ABBEY CHOIR

Vacancy for a Bass Lay Vicar from September 1984. Details and application form (large S.A.E. please) from

The Receiver General, 20 Dean's Yard, Westminster Abbey, London, SW1P 3PA

Closing date
31st May 1984

EDUCATIONAL: STUDENTSHIPS

CANCER RESEARCH CAMPAIGN LABORATORIES
UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM
RESEARCH STUDENTSHIP

Applications are invited for a Cancer Research Campaign funded studentship, commencing in summer-autumn 1984. The studentship will be available for a period of three years and it is expected that the candidate will register for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. The project will be concerned with the study of cellular changes during chemically-induced rat liver carcinogenesis, with a view to the positive identification of pre-malignant liver cells.

Please apply, enclosing a curriculum vitae to:
Dr. M. J. EMBLETON,
Cancer Research Campaign Laboratories,
University of Nottingham,
University Park,
Nottingham, NG7 2RD.

IMPERIAL CANCER RESEARCH FUND

Personal Assistant

£7,250–£8,820

required by our Appeals Director to be involved in all aspects of fund raising plus a wide range of secretarial and administrative duties. There is a lot of contact with the general public, meetings to organise and attend. Initiative and the willingness to accept responsibility are essential.

Age 28+ with good secretarial skills plus flair and personality are the essential requirements of this demanding position.

For further information and application form write or telephone Ms. S. M. Burley, Imperial Cancer Research Fund, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2 on 01-242 0200 ext 305 quoting ref: 55/84.

General Appointments

DIRECTORSHIP FOR TITLED PERSON

A part-time Directorship is available for a person preferably but not necessarily having good international contacts in Marine Insurance or the Oil industry.

Duties will be primarily to entertain clients and therefore membership of a good club is desirable.

Remuneration is dependent on degree of involvement but will range from £1,000 pa for minimal involvement to £5,000 pa for 1 full day each week.

We are a very small but internationally minded ethical service company situated in the north-west.

Box 2514H The Times.

SAUDI ARABIA

Architect with 10 years experience wanted for supervisory landscaping work.

18 – 24 months contract.

Bachelor status.

01-730 2201

Family Housing Association

FHA is one of London's largest housing associations with a housing stock of over 4,500 units, mainly rehabilitated. We wish to recruit for the following posts:

HEAD OF BUILDING SERVICES

This is a new post and the person appointed will be responsible to the Director for control of the Association's development and maintenance programmes. A major emphasis will be placed on the repair and improvement of the existing stock by a mixture of capital and revenue funding. The successful applicant will also be a member of the Association's Senior Management Group.

The Head of Building Services must be able to demonstrate proven management ability. Relevant experience is essential and an appropriate technical qualification is desirable.

Starting salary will be on the scale £14,803–£18,359 pa according to experience and qualifications.

For an informal discussion of this post please telephone FHA's Director, Mike Langstaff, on 01-582 6505.

AREA HOUSING MANAGER

South-East London

The Area Housing Manager is responsible to the Head of Housing Services for an area team of 9 staff, covering a full range of housing management duties, including budgetary control and liaison with statutory bodies.

The successful applicant will have the ability to develop a proficient team, make a positive contribution to the Housing Services Division, and foster tenant participation. Considerable housing management experience – preferably in a supervisory role – is essential and the professional qualification of the Institute of Housing is desirable.

Salary £11,942–£14,488 pa.

For either post, an application form and further details may be obtained from:

Linda Jenkins, Personnel & Training Officer

Family Housing Association

37 Brixton Road, London SW9 6DZ. Tel: 01-582 6505
Closing date for receipt of applications: April 19, 1984

FHA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

Chief Executive

Salary Scale: £23880-£25149 p. a. (plus fees)

Arising from the retirement on 1st October 1984 of the present postholder, the Borough Council invites applications for the above post.

The Chief Executive is the head of the Borough Council's paid service and the principal adviser on policy to the elected Members through the Committee system.

The duties of the post include responsibility for a small department including Personnel, O. & M., Health and Safety, Work Study and M.S.C. schemes, but is free of management of a major department.

The appointment is subject to the terms and conditions of the J.N.C. for Chief Executives.

Applicants, male or female, should be professionally qualified, must be capable of providing strong leadership, be able to demonstrate a record of outstanding management performance, and have the ability to develop the policies of the Council.

In addition to the stated salary, the post carries a lump sum car allowance and assistance with relocation expenses will also be given.

Employment creation is the first priority of the Council.

Further details and application forms can be obtained by writing to the Personnel Officer, Kettering Borough Council, Municipal Offices, Bowling Green Road, Kettering, Northants, NN15 7QX, or by telephoning (0536) 85211, extension 266 or 237.
Closing Date: 25th April 1984.

Kettering
BOROUGH COUNCIL

SUPER SECRETARIES

AUDIO TYPIST

native English speaker, to transcribe from tape difficult English text. Preferably word processor experience.

Apply to:
Technik-Sprachendienst, Aachener Strasse 340, D-5000 Koeln 41 (Germany)

MARKETING IN COMPUTERS, £7,000++ Well-known computer co looking for 3 young secs for their sales & marketing depts. The positions are due to co expansion. They are looking for well-educated presentable people with good shorthand – they will train on their WP. Good personality, aged 22+ Phone Masterlock Recruitment on 01-938 1846 or 938 1718.

TO £8,300 AUDIO PA/SEC, 28-32. Senior position. Important client contact. To £7,000, audio sec. personnel, 20-22, administration for excellent City Company. To £7,250, sec/pa early 20's (100/50) for MD. excellent Co. Knightsbridge, 6 weeks hols. Phone Miller McNish Rec Cons, 437 8476 or 734 3768. 133 Oxford Street.

PA/SEC to Consultant. £8,500++ This successful financial consultant is looking for someone with an impeccable work background, excellent sec skills (WP an asset). A demanding job but a superb opportunity for the right person. Phone Masterlock Recruitment on 01-938 1846 or 938 1718.

WEST LONDON Antique Gallery requires Bright full time Secretary/Sales Assistant. First class typing essential. 5 day week. Age 30-45. Non-smoker. Salary negotiable. References. Write box no 0542.

ESTATE AGENTS. Competent secretary for busy Chelsea office. Good telephone manner, no S/H necessary. WP an advantage but training given, salary neg. 01-589 5211. No agencies.

SECRETARY West End Chartered Surveyors. Age 22+ salary aae. Tel Simon Mostyn 629 2102.

BILINGUAL SECRETARY French/English, shorthand essential (good speeds both), for Chairman reinsurance brokers, EC2. Full sec duties. 28/40 £9,000 Call 643 3851 (Emp Agy).

SH/AUDIO SEC FOR GROUP secretary of International Forwarding & Transport Co. EC4 £7,800. N.C.P.S. Social club Woodhouse Apts 01-404 4646.

RECEPTIONIST 40-55 management consultancy in Victoria requires mature and well spoken receptionist/telephonist, will train. Must be able to type. Some admin duties. Attractive offices, professional environment. Must be good with people at executive level. Hours 9 to 5.45. £7,500. Phone Angela Mortimer Ltd. Recruitment Consultants. 629 9686.

WORK IN BRUSSELS, c£9,000 A well known International Oil Company seeks a PA/Secretary to their Marketing Manager. If you would like to work in Brussels and are educated to 'A' Level standard with 110/60 skills this is ideal. A knowledge of a foreign language would be an asset. Please telephone Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants on 499 8070.

KINGSTON, c £7,300. Why commute when you can work locally? Join this computer services company as secretary to a Manager. This position is 50% secretarial and 50% administrative. Modern offices and free parking facilities. 100/50 skills needed. Please telephone Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants on 499 8070.

W1 SENIOR SECRETARY £8,500. Our client a world famous trading company seeks a PA/Secretary to an executive. You should be well organised and have a calm professional manner. Benefits include your own beautiful office and a free lunch. Please telephone Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants on 499 8070.

SENIOR SECRETARY £10,500. to join a W1 property company as PA/Secretary to their Chief Executive. Hours 3.00pm-10.30pm. Early finish on a Friday. 85/100+ skills essential. Please telephone Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants on 499 8070

YOUNG SECRETARIES. – We have a number of vacancies requiring good secretarial skills for substantial organisations in W1, City and Central London offering varied and excellent fringe benefits. Salaries up to £7,500. 90/50. 499 9175. MacBlain Nash Rec. Cons.

CLASSICAL MUSIC agency requires PA/Sec for Director. Assured sh/typ skills and an informed interest in music are prerequisites. Fluency in German and Italian preferred. Age 25+. Generous salary, aae. Please telephone 01-493 5787 Gordon Yates Consultancy.

WELL PRESENTED, mature secretary for 2 partners in established firm in City. Shorthand and audio with minimum 5 yrs. experience. Friendly, well appointed offices. £7,500 + review. Please telephone 01-493 5787. Gordon Yates Consultancy.

THEATRICAL AGENCY requires young shorthand secretary/assistant with warm, friendly personality and confident, calm manner. Must be well spoken. Age 21+. c £6,000. Please telephone 01-493 5787. Gordon Yates Consultancy.

FINE ARTS Director requires first class secretary/PA with good skills (100/60) and organising ability. 2nd European language plus driving licence an advantage. Age 25. c£7,500. Please telephone 01-493 5787. Gordon Yates Consultancy.

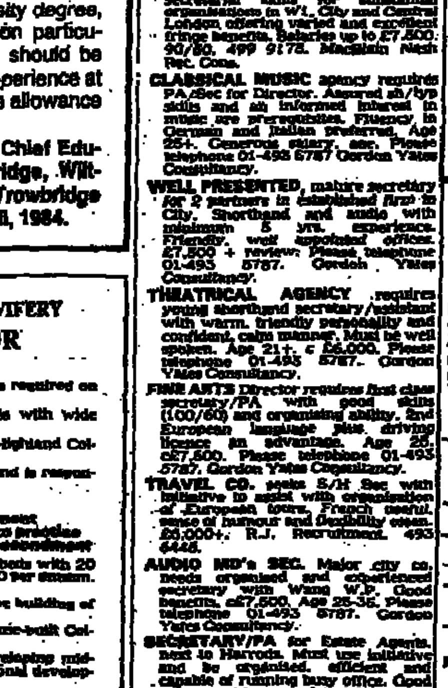
TRAVEL CO. seeks S/H Sec with initiative to assist with organisation of European tours. French useful, sense of humour and flexibility essen. £6,000+. R.J. Recruitment. 493 6446.

AUDIO MD's SEC. Major city co. needs organised and experienced secretary with Wang W.P. Good benefits. c£7,500. Age 25-35. Please telephone 01-493 5787. Gordon Yates Consultancy.

SECRETARY/PA for Estate Agents. Next to Harrods. Must use initiative and be organised, efficient and capable of running busy office. Good salary and bonuses for right person. 01-589 0337.

SECRETARIES FOR ARCHITECTS and Designers. Permanent/temporary positions. AMSA Specialists Agency 01-734 0532.

JNR SECT/RECEPTIONIST with S/hand reqd. by small Ad Agency in Piccadilly. Please Sue 01-439 8856.



Group Corporate Planner

Neg. from £30,000 **London**

The Wellcome Foundation Limited is an international group of pharmaceutical and chemical companies with headquarters in the United Kingdom with a turnover close to £700 million.

This is a new position, immediately below Board level, reporting to the Group Corporate Planning Director. It will provide a new stimulant and an extension of professional corporate planning within Wellcome worldwide.

Existing profit planning conventions and systems are mature and effective. The position is created by the requirement for the function to contribute advanced and strategic thinking to the formation of Group policies. The scope of the appointment is existing and potential trading avenues. The Directorate reports to and will work closely with the Chief Executive.

Candidates, of either sex, would be unlikely to be aged less than 35, must demonstrate a high quality of conceptual numeracy, exceptional verbal and inter-personal skills, and innovative business acumen. ACA or MBA would best be supplemented either by a scientific background or recent experience of the pharmaceutical or chemical industries.

It is envisaged that the successful candidate will currently be earning not less than £30,000. The opportunities for a significant contribution at the highest level to the organisation's direction and growth are better than most.

Please send a full c.v. to Bernard L. Taylor or telephone for an application form quoting Ref. LT6697.

Mervyn Hughes Alexandre Tic (International) Ltd.
Management Recruitment Consultants



37 Golden Square, London W1R 4AN
☎ 01-434 4091



RECTOR

Applications are invited for the vacant post of Rector, the Principal of an institution directly descended from the original Polytechnic and now a broadly-based and diversified organisation at the forefront of academic, professional and continuing education and research, with emphasis on serving the needs of industry and commerce. Academic attainments and wide interests are important but the successful candidate must also show evidence of successful management experience and a capacity for imaginative leadership.

The salary is £29,550 per annum inclusive of London Allowance (under review with effect from 1.4.1984). For further particulars write to the Personnel Officer, PCL, 309 Regent Street, London W1R 8AL. Applications should be submitted to the Chairman of the Court of Governors by 30 April 1984.

The Polytechnic of Central London

PRINCIPAL

Wirral Autistic Society
RABY HALL COMMUNITY, BROMBOROUGH

Opened in November 1977, this community home for autistic people currently caters for 23 residents and 3-day attenders. Plans are being prepared to expand the existing facilities by erecting a purpose-built hostel in the grounds to accommodate up to 15 more residents.

The home is situated in attractive semi-rural surroundings, with shops and the M53 motorway within easy reach.

The post of Principal will become available from mid-June 1984, and offers a challenging and rewarding opportunity to candidates whose training and experience may be in any relevant discipline. Training/teaching of the mentally handicapped, and/or experience with autistic children/adolescents/adults could be advantageous.

Under the overall guidance of the Management Committee the successful applicant will be responsible for the continued development of structured and progressive educational and training programmes in collaboration with the existing staff, and for the future development of the community as a whole.

Accommodation is available in the form of a 3/4 bedroomed bungalow in the grounds and residence on site is preferred, though under some circumstances a non-residential appointment may be considered.

Salary is negotiable and will be determined in accordance with the experience and qualifications of the successful applicant on the basis of NJC scales. A pension scheme is also available.

Application forms and further information may be obtained by writing to the Chairman of the Management Committee, Raby Hall Community, Raby Hall Road, BROMBOROUGH, Wirral, Merseyside L63 0NN. Closing date for completed application forms: May 4, 1984.

WILTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Education Department

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Principal Officer £12,408-£13,725 pa

This post is an important and challenging one. It carries a major responsibility for the administration of the Education Department and services provided centrally for schools, colleges and other education institutions: with particular reference to finevcial planning and control, and the use of new technology.

Applicants must be well qualified with a university degree, DMA or a appropriate professional qualification particularly in accountancy or business studies, and should be able to demonstrate successful administrative eperience at a high level. Removal expenses and disturbance allowance *payable in approved cases.*

Application form and further details from The Chief Education Officer (ST/KES), County Hall, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, BA14 8JB, quoting ref: E.84.114, tel: Trowbridge (02214) 3641, ext 2454. Returnable by 16th April, 1984.

Financial Management Opportunities in High Technology

Our client, set up three years ago as a division of a major British Group, operates within the high technology communications industry and has achieved substantial growth beyond its original plans. As a consequence they now need to restructure the management finance department to meet market demands. Present requirements are for:–

Management Accountant – c £16,000

Duties to include specification and installation of new business information systems, establishment of costing methods, preparation and review of medium/long term business plans plus investment appraisals, ACMA Preferred. (ref. T/28)

Financial Accountant – c £14,000

Supervising a small team, responsibilities will be for the main stream financial accounts function including the interpretation and revision of accounting policies and procedures for non-financial management. ACA/ACCA Preferred. (ref. T/29)

Based in London, the positions call for qualified accountants, up to 30 years of age, with a strong commercial instinct, a positive personality and the determination to succeed.

In confidence, telephone Patrick Donnelly on 01-222 5169 or write with full cv and daytime telephone number quoting the appropriate reference.



The Finance Index
Financial Recruitment Consultants
11 Palmer Street London SW1H 0AB

amnesty international

REQUIRES A RESEARCHER

From June 1984 until February 1985 (inclusive) to work primarily on China, as well as Laos and Malaysia at the London-based International Secretariat.

To investigate human rights violations and identify the means to ensure protection of human rights within Amnesty International's mandate. Candidates should have sound knowledge of these countries, especially their political and legal background. The ability to seek out and evaluate information objectively, good political judgement and an ability to communicate well in English both orally and in writing are essential. Knowledge of Mandarin Chinese is required.

Salary £9248 per annum (index-linked)

For a detailed job specification and application form send a large sae to the Personnel Office, Amnesty International, 1 Easton Street, London WC1X 8DJ or ring 01 833 1771.

Closing date for the return of completed application forms: 27 April 1984.

RE-ADVERTISEMENT
HIGHLAND COLLEGE OF NURSING & MIDWIFERY

SENIOR MIDWIFERY TUTOR

(Ref. C/732)

A Senior Midwifery Tutor (RGN/SRN, SCM, MTD) will be required on July 1, 1984, due to retirement of the present holder.

Applications are invited from suitably qualified Midwives with wide teaching and practical experience in midwifery.

This is a well established School of Midwifery within the Highland College of Nursing and Midwifery.

The Senior Tutor leads a team of 3 Midwifery Teachers and is responsible for the 18 months training of 30 student midwives.

Other courses held:

MTD students for teaching practice and assessment
Four week refresher courses for midwives returning to practice
Four week obstetric secondment in the basic nursing allocation

There is excellent experience in the Consultant Unit of 56 beds with 20 Special Care Baby Cots and a delivery rate in excess of 2,000 per annum. It is an interested midwifery service.

A new district hospital is due to be opened this year and the building of the new maternity department is to commence thereafter.

The Highland College of Nursing and Midwifery is a purpose-built College for approximately 370 student midwives and nurses.

The person appointed is expected to be interested in developing midwifery research as well as participating in the total educational development of the College.

Informal inquiries are welcomed. Please telephone Miss C.M. Watesing, Director of Nurse Education, at Inverness (0463) 234151 ext. 316.

The job description, information sheet and application form for the above post may be obtained from Mr David T. Wright, Area Nursing Officer (Personnel), Highland Health Board, Reay House, 17 Old Edinburgh Road, INVERNESS.
Tel. Inverness (0463) 239851.

Closing date for completed application forms: April 13, 1984.

Young Computer Administrator

£NEG

Have you the ambition and drive to work for a company that expanded by 50% last year? Our client, a forward looking London based computer leasing company has an opportunity for a highly motivated young person with the desire to progress. You will need some administrative experience and a knowledge of computers. However, more important is your bright personality and the ability to work within a young lively team. Wendy McNulty

FORSYTH
executive

Forsyth Executive 85/87 Jermyn Street London SW1Y 6JD Telephone 01-930 7914 Telex 917835

PART TIME VACANCIES

PART-TIME sales clerical Assistant (Antiques) Mon/Thurs/Saturday. Notting Hill area. £15 per day. 221 4950.

SECRETARY WITH S/H and audio for large international Co in Piccadilly. 17½ hours per week reg. Approx £4.40 ph. Phone Frances, OV Selection (Emp Agy). 828 8345.

PART TIME VACANCIES

AFTERNOONS ONLY. Intelligent Dictaphone Secretary (over 28) willing to negotiate in small Knightsbridge Estate Agents. Ideal for mother returning to work – accuracy and ability to think more important than speed. Good geographic knowledge of London essential. Start now or May. Please ring 589 9551.

HARLEY ST. Ultrasound unit requires unflappable Receptionist for 3 short but hectic days P/W. 486 7991.

These appointments provide an opportunity to join the largest independent privately-owned hydrographic, geophysical and engineering survey company. Gardline Surveys owns and operates 5 British flag dedicated survey vessels engaged in the provision of survey and positioning services primarily in Western Europe with subsidiaries in Houston and Singapore.

Chief Surveyor Designate

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We now seek a professional engineer to assist the Chief Director in the overall management of NMERI and to assume responsibility for the direction of at least 3 of its divisions. Research programme fields will include thermodynamics, fluid mechanics, aeromechanics, tribology, geomechanics, structural mechanics design and development. Duties will include research project administration, report writing and considerable direct liaison with industry nationwide.

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Salary will truly reflect the importance attached to this post and will be augmented by benefits including ● free air passages ● assistance with removal costs ● a settling-in allowance ● housing loan subsidy ● annual bonus (13th cheque) ● medical aid, pension/life assurance schemes ● outstanding in-house sports and recreational facilities, etc. Pretoria itself will offer a high standard of living, good schooling (primary to tertiary), shopping and entertainment facilities with the emphasis on outdoor pursuits.

Applicants are invited to send a detailed curriculum vitae, including contact 'phone number, to The Scientific Counsellor, South African Science Office, 2nd Floor, Chichester House, 278 High Holborn, London WC1V 7HE, quoting ref. 11/1/1168 clearly on the envelope. All interviews will be conducted by NMERI in the UK.



The CSIR is a statutory organisation that undertakes and supports research in various fields of Science and Technology — for the benefit of all peoples within the Republic of South Africa — through 5,000 staff at 30 institutes, laboratories and service departments nationwide.

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DIRECTOR

SCOTTISH NATIONAL MUSEUMS

The Civil Service Commissioners invite applications for the post of Director of the Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh. The successful candidate will also, subject to the passing of legislation, be expected to give priority to setting up the Museum of Scotland on the basis of the collections of the National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland. The present Director of the Royal Scottish Museum, Dr Norman Tebble, is to retire in August 1984, and the successful candidate will be expected to assume his duties as soon as possible thereafter.

The Royal Scottish Museum comprises four principal Departments: Art and Archaeology; Natural History; Geology; and Technology. Its main building contains galleries for permanent and temporary exhibitions, a lecture theatre, and a reference library. The Director also has administrative responsibility for the Scottish United Services Museum, housed within Edinburgh Castle and for the Museum's outstations: Shambellie House Museum of Costume, New Abbey, Dumfries; the Museum of Flight, East Fortune, East Lothian; and the Biggar Gas Works. The duties include day-to-day management, financial control, and the formulation and development of policies.

The Museum of Scotland will require legislation, which the Secretary of State for Scotland hopes to promote in the 1984/5 Parliamentary Session. The legislation will establish a Board of Trustees to manage the Royal Scottish Museum and the new Museum. Initially the successful applicant will be expected to work closely with a Museums Advisory Board which the Secretary of State is appointing to plan the development of the unified museum structure. After the passage of legislation and the appointment of the new Board of Trustees, the Director will assume full responsibility for both Museums.

Candidates will be expected to have innovative flair and wide knowledge of and interest in the national heritage. They must have good academic qualifications and be able to demonstrate proven managerial competence of a high order. Distinction in one of the fields of study with which either of the Scottish national museums is concerned would be an advantage.

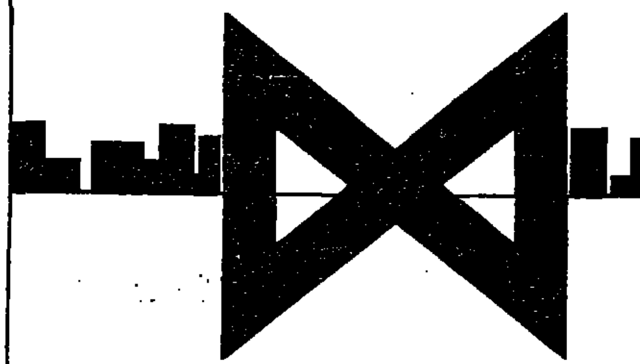
Salary (under review): £25,455.

The appointment will be for a fixed period of 5-7 years and may be renewed.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 3 May 1984) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 68551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: G/6204.

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Candidates must have had considerable experience of the offshore business, both technically and commercially. A track record in project development and in dealing with operators, suppliers and public sector bodies is essential.

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The person appointed will be responsible for formulating and implementing projects in one or more of the following areas – property, area, industry, technology or oil related projects. The successful candidate will have experience of project formulation and appraisal and will lead ad hoc teams including other executives for these several projects. Candidates should possess a good honours degree and experience of multi-disciplinary team work and inter-agency working.

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GRADUATE ANAL/PROGS, London — **C. £12,000**
Graduates with a degree in any discipline and upwards of 18 months experience of programming and/or analysis, are required by this leading international consultancy. Areas of particular interest are IBM mainframes (Cobol, PL/1 or Assembler), IBM minis (RPG II/III), Hewlett Packard, Data General, and Tandem. However applicants with experience of any other hard/software will also be of interest. Successful applicants will be working on a wide variety of hardware, software and applications (banking, financial, commercial and manufacturing) for which comprehensive training will be given. The positions are both demanding and rewarding, and applicants will, although not immediately, have the option of working in a variety of locations, including overseas. REF TM 5749

CONSULTANT – OFFICE AUTOMATION, C. London — **Up to £16K**
An international information systems consultancy require further Consultants to work within their recently established Office Automation Division. Successful applicants will become involved with long term planning, requirements analysis, installation management, product selection, technical evaluation and many other areas within this new and rapidly advancing field. The company requires applicants to have previous experience from within Office Automation and be able to communicate to users from office to boardroom level. The company offers a very good salary combined with the opportunity to work at the forefront of this expanding discipline. REF TJ 7920

PROGS – SEN PROGS, SYS DES BUS ANAL Hants — **£8.5K-£13.5K**
A national service company based in Hampshire are looking to recruit several staff to join their D.P. department. Vacancies exist for Programmers, Senior Programmers, Systems Designers and Business Analysts. Programmers should have at least 2 yrs experience of ICL/VME/Cobol with TPMS. IDMS or DRS a distinct advantage. Systems Designers would be required to have 2 yrs practical experience of systems design or VMF 2900. Business Analysts should ideally have gained experience from within an insurance, finance, travel or retail systems environment. In addition to a competitive salary, excellent fringe benefits accompany this post including relocation where appropriate, sick pay, pension scheme, staff restaurant and normal holidays. REF TT 7928

LECTURERS City — **£11K–£18K**
A highly successful and expanding D.P. Training Centre wishes to recruit eight Lecturers to provide comprehensive training courses in Programming and Analysis. The courses are intensive, varying from 3 days to 5 weeks and are geared towards the commercial environment. Teaching exp. is not required but applicants should have the appropriate communication and personal skills. Exp. should include other commercial analysis exp. gained in a mainframe environment: 2900 Cobol programming exp. including knowledge of SCL and IDMS or IBM mainframe exp. including general design work and knowledge of CICS. The successful applicants will develop their own expertise through organised courses and visits to manufacturers and companies. Courses take place either on-site or customer premises and may include up to 6 weeks UK travel. Company benefits include profit sharing scheme, BUPA and flexitime. REF TA 7963.

TANDEM (BANKING) City — **To: £16K + CAR**
An established and expanding software house dealing exclusively with Tandem hardware have 5-7 vacancies open for Programmers (Cobol/TAL) and Analyst/Programmers. Their London clients are City-based, and operate in the financial sector. Consequently, it would provide an excellent opportunity for those working in the commercial sector to move into banking, and those with prior banking experience to consolidate their experience in a variety of different installations. Successful applicants will have the option of short spells (up to a week) working in Paris, Zurich, or North America. Salary and conditions are excellent, with a car offered with senior positions. REF TM 7955

ANAL/PROG (USER INFORMATION) Middx. — **C: £13K + CAR**
This progressive IBM user based in Middlesex are setting up a User Information Centre. They wish to recruit a person who will be working as an Analyst/Programmer but will be instrumental in the overall running, decision making and direction of the user Information Centre. The company currently use and IBM 3083, 4300's, 8100's and various PC's. Applicants should have experience of IBM mainframes, databases and micros with preferably APL and/or other 4th generation type languages. Obviously this position is of great importance with a clear path into management in the very near future. Excellent benefits are offered including a company car and European travel. REF TS 7006

PRODUCT DES, PRODUCT SUPPORT Berks — **C: £14K + CAR**
Product Designers and Product Support people are required by a company involved in the specification development and support of a software/hardware package for the travel industry. For the Product Designer vacancy, applicants should have 4 yrs exp. developing software packages for minis and/or Micros, pref. with a mixture of development and testing responsibilities. Micro Cobol (or other mini/micro based Cobol) exp. would be an advantage. The Support position requires someone experienced in the support of interactive software packages for minis or micros and is able to show an ability to analyse and solve customer problems. Any applicants with exp. of Travel, Airline Reservation or View Data systems, will also be of interest. As part of a major group, the company offers normal large company benefits including pension scheme, medical ins. and poss. relocation. REF TA 7940

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HORIZONS

The Times guide to career development

Sharing profits with employees

Clare Raffael assesses options for company staff cooperation

Share option schemes have become the subject of much attention since the Budget emphasized the advantages to both employee and employer. But even before this encouragement, the number of schemes was increasing – *mostly in the larger companies* (for example, in more than half of those with a minimum turnover of £100m), although there is plenty of scope for smaller companies to benefit from such arrangements.

Approved schemes are governed by the usual Inland Revenue tangle of *regulation* and *Stock Exchange* requirements, coinciding and overlapping the guidelines set down by the investment protection committees (IPCs), which, though not legally enforceable would be folly to ignore. It would be more than awkward if institutional shareholders voted as a matter of principal against a scheme.

In the case of senior executive share option schemes, the IPCs specify that *the subscription price should include* no discount. They also seek to limit senior executive options to 5 per cent *of issued equity capital over a 10 year* period.

New Internal Revenue rules fix the maximum at £100,000 – or four times salary, whichever is greater. The new concessions allow any profit made on selling shares granted after April 6 to be taxed as capital gains.

In his speech the Chancellor said he was "convinced that we need to do more to attract top-calibre company management." He sees the executive share option scheme as an effective method of linking rewards to performance. In the case of very senior executives he is right. Here share options double well as straight incentive schemes, because in these cases criteria for performance appraisal would be measured anyway by company profits and share price movements. Nevertheless, it should be borne in mind that all these factors do not necessarily shift in parallel. Nigel Lawson's concern is also well-based. *Britain, still low in the* European salary league table, is a virtual bargain basement of managerial skill for other countries. Such forms of compensation go some way to redressing the balance.

The alternative, the savings-related share option scheme available to all employees, also received a boost in the Budget. SAYE related plans are the fastest-growing of the share-based plans. Most plans are fairly uniform in design because of the rigorous inspection by the Inland Revenue's technical division. In essence they operate as ordinary monthly savings plans (the tax-free monthly contribution will be doubled to £100), with the possibility of buying company *shares after a minimum of five years* at a price fixed when the option was originally granted, at least 90 per cent *of middle-market rate, both a* statutory and an IPC regulation. If this is not attractive the employee may simply withdraw his or her savings, usually augmented by a bonus.

This is a simplified explanation; the concept and administration of SAYE-*linked option plans is sometimes* difficult to explain.

There is a third category of share-based plan, not affected by this year's Budget: the all-employee, profit-sharing scheme. A revenue-approved scheme of this kind involves a trust being set up to buy shares on behalf of qualifying employees. The IPC's guidelines specify a maximum limit of 5 per cent on allocated profits per annum but many companies set lower limits. *There are many* methods of defining and distributing profits. These should be tailored to the *individual needs and objectives* of the corporation.

The all-employee, *profit-sharing* scheme must be well-communicated to participants. In the latter case, *though, problems are minimized by* the fact that no contribution is required: the monetary gain is seen as an "extra" payment, and therefore the scheme largely sells itself. The employee is, however, liable to income tax on varying proportions of the original "locked-in" value, de*pending on how long* the shares have been held by the trustees. None is due after seven years, when they must be passed on to the employee.

All three types of scheme are worth considering. Many schemes are relatively new and so far no very conclusive research has been carried out but indications are that they can be in the best interests of all concerned. At the least, from an *employee relations point of view*, they are valuable. They can provide a reward for long-service employees, encourage *identification* with shareholders' objectives, provide a chance for employees to acquire capital, and lastly cynically, they take advantage of tax concessions. In the United States, stock option plans have been increasing in popularity in spite of a yo-yo approach by Congress. Over here the last Budget continues a consistent Government approach against which such schemes may be *introduced*.

NEWSROUND

● *The differences in prosperity* and outlook between the wealth of the South and the recession-hit North affect the *professional* as well as the factory worker. A survey published last month in *Accounting Personnel* shows that accountants from one region face many difficulties in moving. Although the demand for accountants is steadily improving, the situation is patchy. The North and *Midlands offer lower salaries and* higher unemployment, and the main problem is the cost of housing, which usually proves an impossible obstacle for moves from North to South, even bearing in mind the higher salary. Employers are therefore reluctant to consider candidates from outside their own areas. As the demand for accountants generally improves, some employers are prepared to take *considerable trouble to retain* the services of employees thinking of resigning. The survey also emphasises that the overpayment of accountants in the public sector in relation to *equivalent jobs in the private sector* continues. *Salaries in Accountancy* is published twice yearly by Accountancy Personnel, 63/65 Moorgate, London EC2R 6BH.

● *Godfrey Golzen writes:* The Polytechnic of the South Bank is planning to correct the criticism that academic research even in the technical and scientific sphere, can be short in practical application, by building the South Bank Techno Park at the Elephant and Castle, with £4.5m from the Prudential Insurance group, the first venture of its kind in Britain.

This will provide quality spaces at reasonable rentals on a monthly basis to give new high-tech companies a chance to launch themselves in a central location without getting swamped in overheads. They will have access *to both* the Poly's secientific expertise, and the financial muscle of the City. Tenants will be drawn *mainly from universities and polytechnics.* The architects, Moxley Jenner *and Partners hope to complete the* building within 18 months.

● Ian Mitchell-Lambert, headmaster at Howbury Grange School in Erith, Kent, was so concerned at the numbers of out of work parents that he has set up Job Generation Ltd, a community scheme in cooperation with the Manpower Services Commission now employing 160 mostly long-term unemployed people who *work to provide jobs for others* like themselves. It also offers training to find jobs, runs a free newspaper, is "tidying up" the local yacht club and has two schemes to help disabled people. Called CHAPS (Community Help for Non-Able People), the schemes centre on garden and house maintenance for the elderly, disabled, low income groups and single parents.

Payments for full-time workers is at *the local authority rate for the job.* For 24 hours a week it is £50 to £60 gross. Anyone interested should phone Trevor Jones (gardens) or Lawrence Pestell (houses) on 01-301 4276.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS and IN MEMORIAM £3.25 a line (minimum 3 lines)

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THE TIMES OF IGNORANCE God overlooked, but now he commands all men everywhere to repent Acts 17: 30 (R.S.V.)

BIRTHS

BALFOUR. - On March 31st, at St Theresa's, Wimbledon, to Carolyn, wife of Jamie, a daughter

BIELECKI. - On April 4, 1984, at St Georges, Tooting, to Panna (neé Elliott) and Jurek, a son, Anton Andrzey

COOPER. - On April 2nd, at St Thomas Hospital, to Anna (neé Lillis) and Ian, a daughter, Alice

CROSS. - On March 26, in Chicago, to Josephine (nee Langford) and Nicholas - a daughter (Sophie Caroline), a sister for Chloe

CUTHBERT - on 22nd March to Victoria and Aidan a daughter

DEATHS

ORMEROD. - On 3rd April 1984, peacefully in her sleep at Oakwood Nursing Home, East Harting, after a long illness patiently borne Dr Catherine Jane Ormerod, MRCP, MRCS, formerly of Acorn Ridge, Rogate nr Petersfield. Most dearly loved sister of Maurice and Hrelna Funeral service, Guildford Crematorium, 11 30am Tuesday, 10th April -Undertakers, L. F Linton & Son, of Midhurst (Tel Midhurst 3264)

POMFRET. - On April 3rd 1984, in hospital at Taunton after a short illness, Surgeon, Rear Admiral A. A Pomfret, C.B., O.B.E., M.B., Ch B, D.O (Oxon) D.O.M.S in his 84th year, of Passlands, Forton, Chard, Somerset. Beloved husband of Carlene, dearly loved father of Jill, Jocelyn and John and loving grandfather

PURVIS. - On 2nd April at Eastbourne, Col Malcolm Steel Purvis, O.B.E., M.D. Cremation service to be held at Tunbridge Wells Crematorium on Wednesday, 11th April at 3.00pm. Flowers and enquiries to Cooper and Son Funeral Service, Uckfield 3765

ROARK E. C. (Butler) brother of Aidan on 29th March 1984, of Garth Lodge, Stockton Avenue, Fleet, Hants Both from Carlow, Eire

ROARK: Aidan, on 31st March 1984 in Watsonville PO Box 1111 California USA 95077

ROBSON on April 1st 1984 peacefully in a hospital, Irene Beatrice, aged 87 years Widow of Leonard Robson. Cremation private. Memorial service at Egglescliffe Parish Church at 11.30 am on Monday April 16th 1984

SCOTT - on April 3rd peacefully in hospital after a brave fight aged 93, Robert Francis Cloete, OBE, MC. Cremation in private on April 6th Enquiries 01 769 6992

SMITH. - On April 2nd, Lincoln, husband of Pat and father of Hilary, Caroline, Stephanie and Graham. Service at St Mary with St Alban, Teddington, at 12 noon on April 12th, followed by private cremation No flowers, donations to Linear Accelerator Appeal, Westminster Hospital, SW1

SYMINGTON - on 3rd April 1984, David Symington CSI, CIE, ICS (retired), of 5 Paragon Terrace, Cheltenham Cremation private, no flowers by request ...

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Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

BBC 1

Ceefax AM. News headlines, weather, traffic and sports bulletins.

Breakfast Time with Frank Bough and Selina Scott. News from Debbie Rix at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; sport at 6.40 and 7.40; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; the day's television previewed at 8.55: a review of the morning newspapers at 7.18 and 8.18;

The French Way. The people and delicacies of Perigord (r). 9.30 Ceefax. 10.30 Play School, presented by Sheelagh Gilbey (r). 10.55 Ceefax.

News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Frances Coverdale. The weather prospects come from Ian McCaskill 12.57 Regional news (London and SE only: Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles). 1.00 Pebble Mill at One with guests veterinary surgeon Brian Watkins and clothes designer Hardy Amies. 1.45 Fingerbobs (r).

The Afternoon Show, presented by Barbara Dickson and Penny Junor, includes items on drug dependency and fatherhood 2.40 El Escorial. The story of the huge building conceived by King Philip II of Spain, which still stands in the Guadarrama mountains near Madrid (r).

Cartoon Double Bill. 3.53 Regional news (not London). 3.55 Play School, presented by Shireen Shah. 4.20 The New Adventures of Mighty Mouse (r). 4.25 Jigsaw. The first of a new series. 4.40 *Huckleberry Finn and his* Friends. Part two of the 26-episode series based on the Mark Twain books (r). 5.05 Newsround. 5.10 Blue Peter includes an up-dated report on the International Garden Festival in Liverpool in which the centre-piece of the Blue Peter garden is a 25 metre-long dragon designed by 14-year-old Theodore Gayer-Anderson.

Sixty Minutes includes the news read by Moira Stuart at 5.40: weather at 5.54: regional magazines at 5.55: and news headlines at 6.38.

Best of Harty. Highlights from *Mr Harty's recent series.* Among those appearing are Tracey Ullman, Selina Scott, Paul McCartney and Boy George.

Tomorrow's World includes a report from Australia by Kieran Prendiville on recent advances in sheep farming.

Top of the Pops, presented, live, by John Peel and David Jensen.

The Living Planet. The last programme of the series presented by David Attenborough. Tonight Mr Attenborough examines how man has changed the face of the planet over a period of ten thousand years, beginning at Beidha in Jordan where the first farmers settled.

News with Sue Lawley.

Missing From Home. Part two and Allison begins to come to terms with the disappearance of her husband and starts to look into her legal and financial affairs.

Question Time. Bernard Levin takes over as chairman while Sir Robin Day is on holiday. The panel consists of Lord Gowrie, Sir Peter Hall, Joan Lestor and Diana Warwick.

Computers in Control. Part five of an introduction to the *world of robotics (shown last* Friday).

News headlines and weather.

TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain presented by Nick Owen and Jane Irving. News from Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 6.35 and 7.35; exercises at 6.50 and 9.15; the day's anniversaries at 7.05 and 8.05; a guest in the spotlight at 7.20; cartoon at 7.25; Frank Windsor at 7.40; pop video at 7.25; family business at 8.10; film review at 8.35; baby talk at 9.05.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 Thames news headlines followed by Sesame Street. 10.25 Film: Habeas Corpus* (1928) starring Laurel and Hardy as incompetent body snatchers hired by a mad scientist. Directed by Leo McCarey. 10.45 Fabulous Thailand. Games and contests. 11.10 Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea. Captain Adams searches the ocean bed for a mystery force that may have been responsible for an aborted missile launch (r).

12.00 *Benny Adventures of a little* dog. For the very young 12.10 Get Up and Go! with Beryl Reid (r). 12.30 The Sullivans World War Two drama about an Australian family.

1.00 News. 1.20 Thames news. 1.30 A Plus. Kay Avila talks to Lon Satton about his experiences as a Baptist minister and his forthcoming cabaret show. 2.00 Take the High Road It's sheep dog trials day at Glendarroch.

2.30 Ladykillers. Robert Morley introduces a dramatisation of the trial of Crippen and Ethel Le Neve (r). 3.30 Sons and Daughters. Decision day arrives for David.

4.00 Benny. A repeat of the programme shown at noon. 4.15 Aubrey Adventures of an odd inventor (r). 4.20 Madabout. Matthew Kelly and Johnny Morris meet Kay Lockwood who runs a donkey sanctuary. 4.45 The Book Tower. Alun Armstrong dips into books about soldiers' uniforms of the past (Oracle titles page 170). 5.15 The Young Doctors. Australian-made drama series.

5.45 News 6.00 Thames news.

6.25 Thames Sport. Mick Channon and Terry Neill mull over last night's football match between England and Northern Ireland; Steve Rider presents a profile Olympic rowing hopeful; and talks to World Cycling Champion Tony Doyle.

6.55 Carry on Laughing. Highlights from the successful Carry On series of films (r).

7.25 Film: Bear Island (1979) starring Donald Sutherland and Vanessa Redgrave. Meteorologists working for the United Nations on an inhospitable island in the Arctic discover the rusting shell of a World War Two German submarine filled with skeletons and gold bullion. With Richard Widmark and Christopher Lee. *Directed by* Don Sharp.

9.30 TV Eye David Bellin reports on the pit that started the miners' strike – Cortonwood, South Yorkshire.

10.00 News followed by Thames news headlines.

10.30 Shelley. The prospect of employment at the Foreign Office becomes a reality and the indolent Shelley decides to spend his last days of freedom by lying low (r).

11.00 The Spanish Civil War. Spain is being filled by volunteers for both sides from all over Europe.

12.00 Newhart. American comedy series starring Bob Newhart.

12.25 Night Thoughts from the Rev Jim Graham.

Barry McGovern as Eamon de Valara (Channel 4, 9.30)

CHOICE

● CAUGHT IN A FREE STATE (Channel 4, 9.30pm) is either a comedy with a thriller fringe, or a thriller with a comedy fringe. On the evidence of the first episode of Brian Lynch's four-part drama series from Radio Telefis Eireann, it is difficult to be sure. Not that it matters much. Just take it as it comes – and it comes most entertainingly. The central situation is that it is 1942, that this is neutral Ireland, and a handful of German agents have been taken into internment for spying. They include Hermann Goertz whose mission was to set up pro-German contacts in the Free State in preparation for a German landing. And it is with Goertz and his luckless attempts to stiffen the resolve of the local fascists and IRA while picking his way through the Alice in Wonderland world of Irish politics that tonight's episode deals. Goertz is a thorn in the flesh even of the German envoy in Dublin who understandably complains that "two German ambassadors in one country is too much". As for the secret radio with which Goertz hopes to transmit messages to his masters in Berlin, the IRA are busy using it to place their racing bets. It is difficult to establish how much of what we see tonight is fact, and how much fiction. Goertz's verdict, after many frustrations, is that in Ireland, it is the fiction that is true.

● TRAVELLING HOPEFULLY (BBC 2, 9.30pm) is, by design, a lot of fuss about nothing. It is a Forty Minutes documentary that takes us back to *The Hunting of the Snark* because that elusive creature was no less easy to track down than are the political and commercial lobbyists who, in tonight's film, are pursued by the journalist Kevin Page and his producer David Jones. And when, at last, they succeed in getting round a lunch table with one of the species, a three-headed Snark (two male heads, the other female), the Snark turns out to be an uncommunicative Goojum. A pity, really, that the film could not have gone out on April Fool's Day.

● By the time you read this, Radio 4's experimental ROLLERCOASTER (8.57am) will probably already be rattling over the tracks. It is a hopeful augury that the man in charge of the vehicle is Richard Baker, who holds an advanced driver's licence in broadcasting.

Peter Davalle

BBC 2

6.05 Open University: Pure Maths: Linear Equations. 6.30 Home: Castle or Cage? 2. 6.55 Molluscan Evolution. 7.20 Cogs in the Wheel? 7.45 Counting Atoms. Ends at 8.10.

9.00 Ceefax.

5.10 Through the Looking-Glass. An Open University production that examines the mirror image dilemma that faces nuclear physics.

5.35 News summary with subtitles.

5.40 Cartoon Two. A Canadian-made short entitled The Sweater

5.50 Film: Kings of Kings (1961) starring Jeffrey Hunter as Jesus Christ. The film concentrates on three main elements of the New Testament – Jesus's life, the political tensions between Herod's court and the Roman administration, and the story of *Barabas. Directed by Nicholas* Ray, and also starring Siobhan Mckenna (as Mary), Hurd Hatfield (Pilate) Rip Thorn (Judas) Rita Gam (Herodias), Robert Ryan as John the Baptist and Harry Guardino as Barabbas.

8.25 Food and Drink presented by Henry Kelly and Susan Grossman. Among the items is a report from drinks expert Jill Goolden, on Armagnac brandy. She goes to a town in south west France that produces the brandy and examines plans of a British supermarket chain to produce their own version.

9.00 Mike Harding in Belfast. The diminutive comedian and entertainer on the stage of the Grand Opera House, Belfast.

9.30 Forty Minutes: Travelling Hopefully. A documentary about industrial and political lobbyists (see Choice).

10.10 Rowan and Martin's Laugh-in. Vintage American humour with Dan Rowan and Dick Martin plus their team of regulars including Goldie Hawn and Judy Carne. The special guest is David Jones (r).

10.40 Newsnight. The latest world and domestic news plus an in-*depth report on one of the* stories that made today's headlines. Presented by John Tusa, Peter Snow and Donald MacCormick.

11.25 A Voyage Between Two Seas. The final leg of Pete Morgan's cross country trip from the Irish Sea to the North Sea by boat. Mr Morgan sails on the Humber keel, Comrade, to the port of Hull. From there he completes his journey to the North Sea, passing Spurn Head in an ideal boat, especially designed for the rough seas of the area, a Humber pilot cutter (r).

11.55 Open University: Computing at the Royal Bank of Scotland. 12.20 Keynes and the War Economy. Ends at 12.50.

CHANNEL 4

5.00 Countdown. The final Countdown of the week and yesterday's winner is challenged by Ken Smith, a trainee hotelier from Port Isaac in Cornwall. The quick-fire questionmaster is Richard Whiteley, assisted by graffiti-spotter, Nigel Rees.

5.30 Chips Comic. The last programme of the series finds the staff of the comic planning a picnic in the park. Making sandwiches leads the investigative reporter, Rover, to find out how bread is made (r).

6.00 Barriers. Billy's hard-earned scholarship to the Zuckmayer Academy in Salzburg is threatened by his lack of application in work due to his infatuation for the American girl, Julie (r).

6.30 Gardeners' Calendar. Experts from the Royal Horticultural Society's garden at Wisley illustrate what is to do in the garden in April. Hannah Gordon is the narrator and there is advice about growing narcissi and roses.

7.00 Channel Four News includes a report from Stephen Philips on the pop group Culture Club's forthcoming tour of the United States.

7.50 Comment. With his point-of-view on a matter of topical importance is Neil Stewart, president of the National Union of Students.

8.00 Spring Queen. Llew Gardner presents an intimate portrait of *86-year-old Naomi Mitcheson,* writer of more than 70 books, mother to a Botswana tribe, early member of the Fabian Society and active socialist. A Haldane, her father and brother were distinguished scientists and her uncle a Lord Chancellor. Extracts from her autobiographies are read by Isobel Black.

9.00 Soap. Is Chester pleased by Jessica's decision to stay with him? Is Burt happy with his spacemen? All will be revealed.

9.30 Caught in a Free State. Part one of a four-part drama about German intelligence's plot to establish agents in neutral Ireland during World War Two (see Choice).

10.35 If They'd Asked for a Lion Tamer. The story of Dave Dale, drag artist and the Capital Gay newspaper's Entertainer of the Year. The film is shot "live" at Wilton's music hall in London, and features specially written songs.

11.25 Love, Sidney. In Fiddler Under the Roof Patti meets the famous violinist Itzhak Perlman and is immediately inspired to learn to play the instrument herself. Kaleena Kiff plays Patti with Tony Randall and Swoosie Kurtz as Sidney and Laurie.

11.55 Closedown.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing; Weather.
6.10 Farming Today. 6.25 Shipping Forecast.
6.30 Today, including 630, 7.30, 8.30 News. 6.45 Prayer for the Day. 6.55, 7.55 Weather. 7.00, 8.00 Today's News. 7.25, 8.25 Sport. 7.45 Thought for the Day, 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
8.57 Weather; Travel; News; Rollercoaster. First edition of a new three-hour sequence – a six-month broadcast experiment in which listeners are invited to participate. Join Richard Baker and guests for entertaining and provocative conversation including. 10.00, 11.00 News. 10.30 Morning Story: "Harry Comes Home" by Nan Woodhouse. Read by Peter Adamson and 10.45 An Act of Worship – music and prayers.
12.00 News; Your Move or Mine: Tel. 01-580 4411. Bill Breckon opens the door on the housing world with the help of financial expert Tom Tickell.
12.27 The Grumbleweeds† 12.55 Weather; Programme News.
1.00 The World at One: News.
1.40 The Archers. 1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 News; Woman's Hour. Includes a feature in which Pat Rowe finds out from prisoners' wives about the disruption caused to their lives and the social isolation they have suffered, because their husbands are behind bars. There is also the 16th instalment of Rebecca West's novel The Birds Fall Down.
3.00 Afternoon Theatre: Halt, by Alun Owen. Jane Carr and Russell Dixon play the north London couple whose marriage is foundering. The husband believes everything will be all right if he can return to live in Wales where he spent his boyhood holidays.†
4.00 *News; Enquire Within.*
4.10 Bookshelf. Radio 4's book programme.
4.40 Story Time: "Futility" by William Gerhardie (4). Read by Roger Rees.
5.00 PM: News Magazine. 5.50 Shipping Forecast. 5.55 Weather; Programme News.
6.00 The Six o'clock News; Financial Report.
6.30 Brain of Britain 1984. General knowledge contest. (3) The Home Counties (r).
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Any Answers?
7.40 Radio News Special Report. "Crisis in the Air" – an inquiry into Britain's airline industry. The reporter is John Hosken.
8.25 Your Move or Mine: Tel 01-580 4411. Bill Breckon and Tom Tickell are joined by experts to answer your questions on mortgages, etc.
8.50 Actuality. The first of a series of 10 montage documentaries. It is about an area of Liverpool in physical decline.
9.45 Kaleidoscope. Arts magazine. Includes comment on Marcella Evaristi's play Checking Out.
10.15 A Book at Bedtime. "I'm Not Complaining" by Ruth Adam (4). Read by Gwen Taylor.
10.30 The World Tonight.
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News. 12.10 Weather. 12.15 Close. Shipping Forecast.
ENGLAND: VHF as above except: 6.25-6.30 Weather. Travel. 1.55-2.00 pm Listening Corner. 5.50-5.55 PM (continued). 11.00 Study on 4: 20th Century European Authors: French. 11.30-12.00 am-Open University: 11.30 Maths Foundation Tutorial. 11.50 Music Interlude.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. 7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert: part one. C P E *Bach's Sinfonia Wq 183 No 1;* Gluck's Che farò (Orfeo ed Euridice: Berganza); Beethoven's Variations on Ich bin der Schneider Kakadu; and Wagner's overture Tannhauser†. 8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert: part two. Stravinsky's Scherzo fantastique; Ravel's Sonatine (Gieseking, piano); and Berwald's Symphony in G minor†. 9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composer: Spohr. Perlman and Zukerman, violins, play the Duo concertante in D, Op 67 No 2; the Vienna Octet members play the Double Quartet in E minor, Op 87†.
10.50 London Saxophone Quartet: Glazunov's Quartet Op 109 and Damase's Saxophone Quartet.†
11.35 Chamber Orchestras of Europe: Academy of Ancient Music and solo instrumentalists perform Handel's Concerto a due cori No 2 in F, his Concerto Grosso Op 6 No 6 and Vivaldi's Concerto Op 8 No 9. After the 12.20 interval, Handel's overture (Berenice) Minuet and Gigue, Vivaldi's Concerto Op 8 No 12 and Handel's Concerto a due cori No 3 in F major†. 1.00 News.
1.05 What the Critics Said: The record reviews of Compton Mackenzie, in the first of John Steane's four programmes.
2.00 Barbe-bleue: Offenbach's three-act opera, sung in French. With Henri Legay in the title role. Jean Doussard conducts the French Radio Chorus and Lyric Orchestra†.
3.30 Nash Ensembles: Trevor Hold's Wind Quartet; Mozart's Oboe Quartet K 370; and Malcolm Lipkin's Clifford's Tower†.
4.25 Spanish Harpsichord Music: recital by Timothy Roberts of works by Antonio de Cabenzon, Francisco Corea de Arauxo, Juan Cabanilles and Jose Ximenez†. 4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure: Another Fritz Spiegl selection of music†.
6.30 Bandstand: New England Colleges Wind Ensemble play works by Robert Kurka and Holst†.
7.10 Kin: Kenneth Haigh and Bernard Gallagher star in Gabriel Josipovici's play about two men who meet in an empty room. But it is far less straightforward than that (r)†.
7.30 Perspectives on Mahler and Strauss: Simon Rattle and the Philharmonia in a concert relayed direct from the Royal Festival Hall. With soloists Janet Baker, Andrew Shulman (cello), John Chambers (viola). Part one. Berg's suite from Lulu; and Mahler's Kindertotenlieder†.
8.30 The Return of Grand Theory: Mark Philp, Fellow of Oriel College, Oxford, gives a talk on Michel Foucault, the French historian of ideas.
8.50 Perspectives on Mahler and Strauss: part two. Strauss's symphonic poem Don Quixote†.
9.45 Music in Our Time: Premieres of Simon Holt's Kites; Mark-Anthony Turnage's Before Dark; and Simon Bainbridge's *Concertante in moto perpetuo.* Also first broadcasts of Jonathan Lloyd's Three Dances, Robert Saxton's Processions and Dances, and Oliver Knussen's Ophelia Dances. Played by London Sinfonietta†.
11.15 News. Until 11.18.
VHF only: Open University. 11.20pm to 12.00.

Radio 2

News on the hour. Major Bulletins: 7.00am, 8.00, 1.00pm 5.00 and 12.00 midnight. Headlines: 5.30, 6.30, 7.30, 8.30am (MF/MW).
4.00am Colin Berry †. 5.30 Ray Moore †. 7.30 Terry Wogan †. incl 8.31 Racing. 10.00 Jimmy Young †. 12.00pm Steve Jones †. incl 1.05 Sport. 2.00 Gloria Hunniford †. incl 2.02, 3.02 Sport. 3.30 Music All The Way †. 4.00 David Hamilton †. incl 4.02, 5.05 Sport. 6.00 John Dunn †. incl 6.02 Sport, 6.45 Sport and Classified Results (mf only). 8.00 Wally Whyton †. †. 9.55 Sports Desk. 10.00 The News Huddlines. 10.30 Star Sound Extra. Robert Morley talks about his new film High Road to China, and Peter Noble reports on the Hollywood production scene and the latest film releases. 11.00 Brian Matthew presents Round Midnight (stereo from midnight). 1.00am Charles Nove †. 3.00-4.00 Marching and Waltzing. †

Radio 1

News on the half-hour from 6.30am until 9.30pm and then 12.00 midnight (MF/MW).
6.00am Adrian John. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Gary Davies, incl 12.30 Newsbeat 7.00 David Jensen. 10.00-12.00 John Peel. † VHF Radios 1 and 2: 4.00am With Radio 2. 10.00pm With Radio 1. 12.00-4.00am With Radio 2.

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 Newsdesk. 6.30 Nature Notebook. 6.40 The Farming World. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 7.30 The Cambridge Buskers. 7.45 Network UK. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Music For A While. 8.30 John Peel. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Holst And His Circle. 10.15 Monitor 11.00 World News. 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 New Ideas. 11.25 The Week in Wales. 11.30 *Assignment.* 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Top Twenty. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 1.30 Network UK. 1.45 The Pleasure's Yours. 2.30 Discovery. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Assignment. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 8.30 A Jolly Good Show. 9.15 Ulster Newsletter. 9.20 In the Meantime. 9.30 Business Matters. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 The Week in Wales. 10.30 *Financial* News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News About Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 Mourning Becomes Electra 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Ulster Newsletter. 1.50 In the Meantime. 2.00 News. 2.09 Review of British Press. 2.15 A Strolling Player. 2.30 Omnibus. 3.00 News. 3.09 News About Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Business Matters. 4.45 Financial News. 4.55 Reflections. 5.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 5.45 The World Today.

(All times in GMT)

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/285m or 1089kHz/275m. Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m. Radio 1/2 VHF 88-91MHz. Radio 3 VHF ...5MHz, MF 1215kHz/247m. Radio 4 LF 200kHz/1500m and VHF 92-95MHz. Greater London Area MF 720kHz/417m. LBC MF 1152kHz/261m, ...97.3MHz. Capital MF 1548kHz/194m, VHF 95.8MHz. BBC Radio London MF 1458kHz/206m and VHF 94.9MHz. World Service MF ...kHz/463m.

BBC 1 WALES 12.57-1.00 New of Wales. 3.53-3.55 New of Wales. 5.55 (part of Sixty minutes) Wales Today. 11.40 News headlines. New of Wales. SCOTLAND 12.55-1.00pm News. 5.55 (Part of Sixty minutes) Scotland: Sixty minutes. 11.40 News headlines. Scottish news. NORTHERN IRELAND 12.57-1.00pm News. 3.53-3.55 News. 5.55 (Part of Sixty minutes) Scene around six. 11.15-12.00am Professional Boxing: (Barry McGuigan v José Cabe, and Hugh Russell v José Torres). 12.00-12.25 Computers in control. 12.25 Northern Ireland news. ENGLAND 5.55pm (Part of Sixty Minutes. 11.45 Close.

S4C 2.20 Ffalabalam. 2.35 Egwyl/Interval. 3.00 Make It Count. 3.30 Flashback. 3.55 Cautionary Tales. 4.25 Countdown. 4.50 Guto Goch A Malwen. 5.05 Y Gwylit. 5.30 Wayne and Shuster. 6.00 Brookside. 6.30 Here's Lucy. 7.00 Newyddion Saith. 7.30 Snwcer Merched. 8.00 Coleg news headlines. 8.30 The Heart of the Dragon. 9.30 Eryri. 10.30 Film: The Exterminating Angel. 12.10 Close.

ULSTER As London except: starts 9.25-9.30 The Day Ahead. 10.25 Sport Billy. 10.50 Cartoon Time. 11.05 Laurel and Hardy. 11.30-12.00 3-2-1 Contact. 1.20-1.30 Lunchtime. 3.30 It's A Vet's Life. 3.58-4.00 Ulster News. 5.15-5.45 Silver Spoons. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.20 Police Six. 6.30 Crossroads. 6.55-7.25 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30-11.00 Counterpoint. 12.00 News.

HTV WEST As London except: 10.25 Carving out a Legend. 10.40 Once Upon a Time. 11.10-12.00 Space 1999. 1.20-1.30 HTV News. 3.30-4.00 The Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Survival. 6.00 HTV News. 6.30 Crossroads. 6.55-7.25 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30-11.00 Acker at the Fleece. 12.00 Weather and Closedown.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

SCOTTISH As London except: 10.25 Where do they come from? 10.50 Abigail. 11.00 Asian Insights. 11.30-12.00 A Land, A Man, A God. 1.20-1.30 Scottish News. 2.00-2.30 Sons and Daughters. 3.30-4.00 At Ease. 5.10 Bodyline. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today 6.25 In Loving Memory. 6.55-7.25 Now You See It. 10.30-11.00 Positively Unemployed. 12.00 Late Call. 12.05 Crann Tara. 12.35 Closedown.

BORDER As London except: 10.25 Film: A French Mistress. (James Robertson Justice). 1.20-1.30 Border News. 3.30-4.00 The Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 University Challenge. 6.00 Lookaround Thursday. 6.30 Crossroads. 6.55-7.25 Emmerdale Farm. 12.00 Border news. 12.03 Closedown.

GRANADA As London except: starts 9.25 Atom Ant. 9.30 The World We Live In. 9.55 Kum Kum. 10.20 Father Murphy. 11.05 Target The Impossible. 11.30 Dick Tracy. 11.35-12.00 Oliver Hardy. 12.30-1.00 Paint Along With Nancy. 1.20 Granada Reports. 1.30-2.00 About Britain. 3.30-4.00 The Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00 This Is Your Right. 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30 Granada Reports. 6.55-7.25 Emmerdale Farm. 12.00 Making A Living. 12.30 Closedown.

CHANNEL As London except: 1.20 Channel news. 2.30 Family Trees. 3.00 University Challenge. 5.15 The Beverly Hillbillies. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.20 Crossroads. 6.55 That's My Boy. 10.34 Bosom Buddies. 12.00 Portrait of a Legend (Neil Sedaka). 12.25 News and Weather in French, Closedown.

TSW As London except: 1.25 Film: A French Mistress (James Robertson Justice. 1.20 TSW News Headlines. 2.30 Family Trees. 3.00 University Challenge. 5.15 Gus Honeybun's Magic Birthdays. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Today South West. 6.25 Gardens for all. 6.55-7.25 That's My Boy. 10.34-11.00 Bosom Buddies. 12.00 Portrait of a Legend. (Neil Sedaka) 12.25 Postcript. 12.30 Weather and Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: 9.25 3-2-1 Contact. 9.55 Venture. 10.20 Bracken. 11.10 Land of the Dragon. 11.35-12.00 The New Fred and Barney Show. 12.25 European Folk Tales. 12.45-1.00 Contact. 1.20-1.30 Central News. 2.00-3.30 Film: The Trygon Factor (Stewart Granger). 5.15-5.45 Happy Days. 6.00 Crossroads. 6.25 Central News. 6.55 Emmerdale Farm. 7.25-9.30 Film: In Like Flint (James Coburn). 10.30-11.00 Central Lobby. 12.00 Closedown.

TVS As London except: Starts 9.25-9.30 Farming Brief. 10.25 Father Murphy. 11.20 Matt and Jenny. 11.45-12.00 The Little Rascals. 12.30-1.00 Crown Court. 1.20 TVS News. 1.30 Afternoon Club. 1.35 Food, Wine and Friends. 2.10 Miracles Take Longer. 2.40 Vintage Quiz. 3.10 Newsbreak. 3.20-4.00 Sons and Daughters. 5.15-5.45 Take the High Road. 6.00 Coast to Coast. 6.30 Crossroads. 6.55 Emmerdale Farm. 7.25-9.30 Film: In Like Flint (James Coburn). 10.30 Backchat. 11.00 Showcase. 11.15 The Spanish Civil War. 12.15 Company, Closedown.

HTV WALES As HTV West except: 6.00-7.30 Wales at Six. 10.30-11.00 Wales This Week.

ANGLIA As London except: 10.25 European Folk Tales. 10.40 The Adventurer. 11.05 The Glittering Crowns. 11.55-12.00 Wattoo Wattoo. 1.20-1.30 Anglia News. 5.15 Animals in Action. 5.45-6.00 About Anglia. 6.30 Crossroads. 6.55-7.25 That's My Boy. 10.30-11.00 Indoor Motorcycle Trials. 12.00 House Calls. 12.30 The Big Question, Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As London except: starts 9.25-9.30 Weather. 10.25 A Land, A Man, A God. 10.55 European Folk Tales. 11.05-12.00 Genesis in America. 12.30-1.00 That's Hollywood. 1.20 Calendar News. 1.30-2.00 Calendar Thursday. 5.15-5.45 Happy Days. 6.00 Calendar. 6.30 *Crossroads. 6.55-7.25 Emmerdale* Farm. 10.30-11.00 The John Briggs Music Show. 12.00 Jazz at the Smithsonian. 12.30 Closedown.

TYNE TEES As London except: starts 9.25-9.30 North East News. 10.25 The Nature of Things. 11.20 Fire of Harmony. 11.45-12.00 Larry the Lamb. 1.20-1.30 North East News. 5.15-5.45 Happy Days. 6.00 North East News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25 Northern Life. 6.55-7.25 Emmerdale Farm. 12.00 Things I Carry With Me.

GRAMPIAN As London except: starts 9.25 First Thing. 10.25 Film: The Fast Lady (James Robertson Justice). 11.55 Hallas and Bachelor Cartoon. 1.20 North news. 3.30 The Young Doctors. 5.15 Vintage *Quiz. 6.00 North Tonight. 6.20 Police* news. 6.25 Crossroads. 6.50 Mr & Mrs 11.30 Crann-Tara. 12.00 The Two of us. 12.30 North Headlines and weather. 12.35 Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN. † Stereo. ★Black and white. (r) Repeat.

Entertainments

Should the VAT man have a share of our heritage?

by Christopher Warman
Property Correspondent

The restoration and conversion of historic buildings – of castles and oast houses, of mills and warehouses – has been increasing as a means of both saving part of Britain's heritage and providing attractive homes throughout the country.

Developers and builders encouraged by conservation bodies such as SAVE Britain's Heritage, have been able to make the projects commercially viable with the help of zero-rating for VAT of the alteration work involved. The concept is now in jeopardy because of the decision of the Chancellor, Nigel Lawson, to impose 15 per cent VAT across the board on reconstruction work, and SAVE has mounted a campaign to try and get this Budget proposal withdrawn.

SAVE believes the measure could bring such projects to a halt because it would wipe out most of the profits. Certainly there is an added urgency to work in progress to make sure it is completed before the deadline of June 1. One small business which is having to look again at the sums involved is Hesketh Homes, at present completing an oast house conversion at Faversham, Kent, and just beginning work on a Georgian listed building at Broadstairs, Kent.

John Hesketh, the managing director, does not intend to give up the work because that is what he specializes in, but he is writing to the Government to plead the case that VAT should not be imposed in the case of historic buildings.

The development reaching completion in the next few weeks is the conversion of the Tinbridge oasts, built at the end of the nineteenth century, with a square concrete kiln dating from slightly later, at each corner of the barn. They were owned by the brewers Shepherd and Neame, and stand surrounded by hop-fields and orchards on the outskirts of Faversham.

They are thought to be the largest oasts in Kent, and will provide eight houses, each on four floors. The kilns are 21 feet square – "almost ideal for a house", says Hesketh – and he will use the roof space at the top of the oasts as games rooms with galleries, lit from specially recreated cowls admitting daylight.

The provision of sufficient light presented the architect, John Blakeman, with difficulties, since four of the houses have only one wall for windows, and the local authority planners would not allow any roof lights. The result is that the cowls, which may have to be lifted into position by helicopter, have been made to give some.

Hesketh's interest in period buildings has led him to try and present the new owner with a decor and atmosphere in keeping with the style, and he has called in Laura Ashley to plan the internal decoration. Similarly, the architect has carefully preserved the original character by, for example, rebuilding almost all the windows to the Victorian design. Each house has a small private garden as well as the use of the property's grounds.



A conversion of Tinbridge oasts, near Faversham, Kent, built at the end of the nineteenth century, will provide eight houses costing around £48,000 each.

The houses, with four and possibly five bedrooms, cost between £48,000 and £50,000 and are due for release later this month. Details obtained from Hesketh Homes, Golden Mead, Mead Road, Chislehurst, Kent (01-467 6592).

Hesketh's next project is the conversion of Selwyn House College, St Peter's Broadstairs, which has a Victorian addition to the Georgian front, and which is hoped to provide 18 units, mostly 2-bedroomed flats. As with Tinbridge, the aim is to provide a "total environment", not just to build flats, and to try and recreate the Victorian and Georgian styles in their respective parts.

He sees, even with the hovering spectre of VAT, enormous scope over the next two decades to rescue historic properties and turn them into some of the most beautiful homes in the country. He is now negotiating to buy Revesby Abbey, Lincolnshire, designed in 1844 by William Burn in flamboyant Jacobean style, and if successful will convert it into 25-30 luxury flats – a sad fate, some might say, for a fine country house, but infinitely preferable to almost inevitable demolition.

Another developer in the same line in Kent is James Stewart, who has now spent £100,000 in restoring and converting the steel framed mill at Wickhambreaux, near Canterbury, into six apartments. The project is nearing completion, one apartment has already been sold and the remaining units, costing between £40,000 and £45,000, are on offer through John German of London and Farquharson Millard of Canterbury.

One of the perils of buying a conversion in the past has been that they have not been included in the National House-Building Council's insurance scheme, applicable to new homes, to protect the purchaser against building defects. The council has now begun to operate a scheme for the buyers of newly converted flats and houses, and one of the first companies to offer it is Portland Homes for its "Elderwood" development of 35 converted (and 35 new-build) dwellings in West Norwood, south London.

The first phase of the development comprises the restoration and conversion of a Grade II listed Regency building, dating from 1810, which was built by the parish as a children's home and enlarged later in the nineteenth century. That building and the lodge will become 32 flats and 3 houses, while phase II will see the construction of 14 flats and 22 houses in a courtyard arrangement in the grounds.

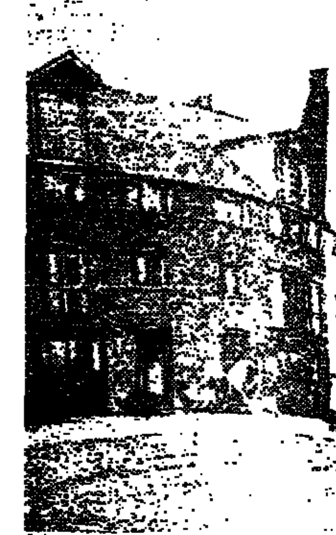
Prices for the homes in the conversion range from £24,950 for a studio flat to £49,950 for a 2/3 bedroom house. Details from the agents Cooper Giles Ltd. (01-771 5202).



Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

…ian have …ritage?



BBC 1

…eefax AM. News headlines, …eather, traffic and sports …ulletins.
…reakfast Time with Frank …ough and Selina Scott. News …om Debbie Rix at 6.30, 7.00, …30, 8.00 and 8.30 with …eadlines on the quarter …ours; sport at 6.40 and 7.40; …gional news, weather and …affic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and …15: the day's television …eviewed at 6.55: a review of …e morning newspapers at …18 and 8.18:
…e French Way. The people …d delicacies of Perigord (r). …30 Ceefax. 10.30 Play …chool, presented by …eelagh Gilbey (r). 10.55 …eefax.
…ews After Noon with Richard …hitmore and Frances …overdale. The weather …ospects come from Ian …cCaskill 12.57 Regional …ews (London and SE only: …nancial report followed by …ews headlines with subtitles). …30 Pebble Mill at One with …ests veterinary surgeon …uan Watkins and clothes …esigner Hardy Amies. 1.45 …ngerbobs (r).
…e Afternoon Show, …esented by Barbara Dickson …d Penny Junor, includes …ms on drug dependency and …herhood 2.40 El Escorial. …e story of the huge building …nceived by King Philip II of …ain, which still stands in the …adarrama mountains near …adrid (r).
…rtoon Double Bill. 3.53 …gional news (not London). …5 Play School, presented …Shireen Shah. 4.20 The …w Adventures of Mighty …use (r). 4.25 Jigsaw. The …t of a new series 4.40 …ckleberry Finn and his …ends. Part two of the 26-…sode series based on the …rk Twain books (r). 5.05 …wsround. 5.10 Blue Peter …udes an up-dated report on … International Garden …tival in Liverpool in which … centre-piece of the Blue …er garden is a 25 metre-… dragon designed by 14-…r-old Theodore Gayer-…lerson.
…y Minutes includes the …s read by Moira Stuart at …; weather at 5.54: regional …azines at 5.55: and news …dlines at 6.38.
…t of Harty. Highlights from …arty's recent series. …ng those appearing are …ey Ullman, Selina Scott, …l McCartney and Boy …rge.
…orrow's World includes a …rt from Australia by Kieran …ndiville on recent advances …heep farming.
… of the Pops, presented by John Peel and David …sen.
… Living Planet. The last …ramme of the series …ented by David …nborough. Tonight Mr …nborough examines how … has changed the face of …lanet over a period of ten …sand years, beginning at …ha in Jordan where the … farmers settled.
…s with Sue Lawley.
…ing From Home. Part two … Allison begins to come to …s with the disappearance …r husband and starts to … into her legal and financial …s.
…stion Time. Bernard Levin … over as chairman while …obin Day is on holiday. … panel consists of Lord …rie, Sir Peter Hall, Joan …ar and Diana Warwick.
…puters in Control. Part … an introduction to the … of robotics (shown last …y).
… headlines and weather.

TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain presented by Nick Owen and Jane Irving. News from Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 6.35 and 7.35; exercises at 6.50 and 9.15; the day's anniversaries at 7.05 and 8.05; a guest in the spotlight at 7.20; cartoon at 7.25; Frank Windsor at 7.40; pop video at 7.25; family business at 8.10; film review at 8.35; baby talk at 9.05.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 Thames news headlines followed by Sesame Street. 10.25 Film: Habeas Corpus* (1928) starring Laurel and Hardy as incompetent body snatchers hired by a mad scientist. Directed by Leo McCarey. 10.45 Fabulous Thailand. Games and contests 11.10 Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea. Captain Adams searches the ocean bed for a mystery force that may have been responsible for an aborted missile launch (r).

12.00 Benny Adventures of a little dog. For the very young 12.10 Get Up and Go! with Beryl Reid (r). 12.30 The Sullivans World War Two drama about an Australian family.

1.00 News. 1.20 Thames news. 1.30 A Plus. Kay Avila talks to Lon Satton about his experiences as a Baptist minister and his forthcoming cabaret show. 2.00 Take the High Road It's sheep dog trials day at Glendarroch.

2.30 Ladykillers. Robert Morley introduces a dramatisation of the trial of Crippen and Ethel Le Neve (r). 3.30 Sons and Daughters. Decision day arrives for David

4.00 Benny. A repeat of the programme shown at noon. 4.15 Aubrey Adventures of an odd inventor (r). 4.20 Madabout. Matthew Kelly and Johnny Morris meet Kay Lockwood who runs a donkey sanctuary. 4.45 The Book Tower. Alun Armstrong dips into books about soldiers' uniforms of the past (Oracle titles page 170). 5.15 The Young Doctors. Australian-made drama series.

5.45 News 6.00 Thames news.

6.25 Thames Sport. Mick Channon and Terry Neill mull over last night's football match between England and Northern Ireland; Steve Rider presents a profile Olympic rowing hopeful; and talks to World Cycling Champion Tony Doyle.

6.55 Carry on Laughing. Highlights from the successful Carry On series of films (r).

7.25 Film: Bear Island (1979) starring Donald Sutherland and Vanessa Redgrave. Meteorologists working for the United Nations on an inhospitable island in the Arctic discover the rusting shell of a World War Two German submarine filled with skeletons and gold bullion. With Richard Widmark and Christopher Lee. Directed by Don Sharp.

9.30 TV Eye David Bellin reports on the pit that started the miners' strike – Cortonwood, South Yorkshire.

10.00 News followed by Thames news headlines.

10.30 Shelley. The prospect of employment at the Foreign Office becomes a reality and the indolent Shelley decides to spend his last days of freedom by lying low (r).

11.00 The Spanish Civil War. Spain is being filled by volunteers for both sides from all over Europe.

12.00 Newhart. American comedy series starring Bob Newhart.

12.25 Night Thoughts from the Rev Jim Graham.

Barry McGovern as Eamon de Valera (Channel 4, 9.30)

CHOICE

● CAUGHT IN A FREE STATE (Channel 4, 9.30pm) is either a comedy with a thriller fringe, or a thriller with a comedy fringe. On the evidence of the first episode of Brian Lynch's four-part drama series from Radio Telefis Eireann, it is difficult to be sure. Not that it matters much. Just take it as it comes – and it comes most entertainingly. The central situation is that it is 1942, that this is neutral Ireland, and a handful of German agents have been taken into internment for spying. They include Hermann Goertz whose mission was to set up pro-German contacts in the Free State in preparation for a German landing. And it is with Goertz and his luckless attempts to stiffen the resolve of the local fascists and IRA while picking his way through the Alice in Wonderland world of Irish politics that tonight's episode deals. Goertz is a thorn in the flesh even of the German envoy in Dublin who understandably complains that "two German ambassadors in one country is too much". As for the secret radio with which Goertz hopes to transmit messages to his masters in Berlin, the IRA are busy using it to place their racing bets. It is difficult to establish how much of what we see tonight is fact, and how much fiction. Goertz's verdict, after many frustrations, is that in Ireland, it is the fiction that is true.

● TRAVELLING HOPEFULLY (BBC 2, 9.30pm) is, by design, a lot of fuss about nothing. It is a Forty Minutes documentary that takes us back to The Hunting of the Snark because that elusive creature was no less easy to track down than are the political and commercial lobbyists who, in tonight's film, are pursued by the journalist Kevin Page and his producer David Jones. And when, at last, they succeed in getting round a lunch table with one of the species, a three-headed Snark (two male heads, the other female), the Snark turns out to be an uncommunicative Goojum. A pity, really, that the film could not have gone out on April Fool's Day.

● By the time you read this, Radio 4's experimental ROLLERCOASTER (8.57am) will probably already be rattling over the tracks. It is a hopeful augury that the man in charge of the vehicle is Richard Baker, who holds an advanced driver's licence in broadcasting.

Peter Davalle

BBC 2

6.05 Open University: Pure Maths: Linear Equations. 6.30 Home: Castle or Cage? 2. 6.55 Molluscan Evolution. 7.20 Cogs in the Wheel? 7.45 Counting Atoms. Ends at 8.10.

9.00 Ceefax.

5.10 Through the Looking-Glass. An Open University production that examines the mirror image dilemma that faces nuclear physics.

5.35 News summary with subtitles.

5.40 Cartoon Two. A Canadian-made short entitled The Sweater

5.50 Film: Kings of Kings (1961) starring Jeffrey Hunter as Jesus Christ. The film concentrates on three main elements of the New Testament – Jesus's life, the political tensions between Herod's court and the Roman administration, and the story of Barabas. Directed by Nicholas Ray, and also starring Siobhan Mckenna (as Mary), Hurd Hatfield (Pilate) Rip Thorn (Judas) Rita Gam (Herodias), Robert Ryan as John the Baptist and Harry Guardino as Barabbas.

8.25 Food and Drink presented by Henry Kelly and Susan Grossman. Among the items is a report from drinks expert Jill Goolden, on Armagnac brandy. She goes to a town in south west France that produces the brandy and examines plans of a British supermarket chain to produce their own version.

9.00 Mike Harding in Belfast. The diminutive comedian and entertainer on the stage of the Grand Opera House, Belfast.

9.30 Forty Minutes: Travelling Hopefully. A documentary about industrial and political lobbyists (see Choice).

10.10 Rowan and Martin's Laugh-in. Vintage American humour with Dan Rowan and Dick Martin plus their team of regulars including Goldie Hawn and Judy Carne. The special guest is David Jones (r).

10.40 Newsnight. The latest world and domestic news plus an in-depth report on one of the stories that made today's headlines. Presented by John Tusa, Peter Snow and Donald MacCormick.

11.25 A Voyage Between Two Seas. The final leg of Pete Morgan's cross country trip from the Irish Sea to the North Sea by boat. Mr Morgan sails on the Humber keel, Comrade, to the port of Hull. From there he completes his journey to the North Sea, passing Spurn Head in an ideal boat, especially designed for the rough seas of the area, a Humber pilot cutter (r).

11.55 Open University: Computing at the Royal Bank of Scotland. 12.20 Keynes and the War Economy. Ends at 12.50.

CHANNEL 4

5.00 Countdown. The final Countdown of the week and yesterday's winner is challenged by Ken Smith, a trainee hotelier from Port Isaac in Cornwall. The quick-fire questionmaster is Richard Whiteley, assisted by graffiti-spotter, Nigel Rees.

5.30 Chips Comic. The last programme of the series finds the staff of the comic planning a picnic in the park. Making sandwiches leads the investigative reporter, Rover, to find out how bread is made (r).

6.00 Barriers. Billy's hard-earned scholarship to the Zuckmayer Academy in Salzburg is threatened by his lack of application in work due to his infatuation for the American girl, Julie (r).

6.30 Gardeners' Calendar. Experts from the Royal Horticultural Society's garden at Wisley illustrate what is to do in the garden in April. Hannah Gordon is the narrator and there is advice about growing narcissi and roses.

7.00 Channel Four News includes a report from Stephen Philips on the pop group Culture Club's forthcoming tour of the United States.

7.50 Comment. With his point-of-view on a matter of topical importance is Neil Stewart, president of the National Union of Students.

8.00 Spring Queen. Llew Gardner presents an intimate portrait of 86-year-old Naomi Mitcheson, writer of more than 70 books, mother to a Botswana tribe, early member of the Fabian Society and active socialist. A Haldane, her father and brother were distinguished scientists and her uncle a Lord Chancellor. Extracts from her autobiographies are read by Isobel Black.

9.00 Soap. Is Chester pleased by Jessica's decision to stay with him? Is Burt happy with his spacemen? All will be revealed.

9.30 Caught in a Free State. Part one of a four-part drama about German Intelligence's plot to establish agents in neutral Ireland during World War Two (see Choice).

10.35 If They'd Asked for a Lion Tamer. The story of Dave Dale, drag artist and the Capital Gay newspaper's Entertainer of the Year. The film is shot "live" at Wilton's music hall in London, and features specially written songs.

11.25 Love, Sidney. In Fiddler Under the Roof Patti meets the famous violinist Itzhak Perlman and is immediately inspired to learn to play the instrument herself. Kaleena Kitt plays Patti with Tony Randall and Swoosie Kurtz as Sidney and Laurie.

11.55 Closedown.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing: Weather.
6.10 Farming Today. 6.25 Shipping Forecast.
6.30 Today, including 630, 7.30, 8.30 News. 6.45 Prayer for the Day. 6.55, 7.55 Weather. 7.00, 8.00 Today's News. 7.25, 8.25 Sport. 7.45 Thought for the Day. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
8.57 Weather; Travel; News; Rollercoaster. First edition of a new three-hour sequence – a six-month broadcast experiment in which listeners are invited to participate. Join Richard Baker and guests for entertaining and provocative conversation including. 10.00, 11.00 News. 10.30 Morning Story: 'Harry Comes Home' by Nan Woodhouse. Read by Peter Adamson and 10.45 An Act of Worship – music and prayers.
12.00 News; Your Move or Mine: Tel. 01-580 4411. Bill Breckon opens the door on the housing world with the help of financial expert Tom Tickell.
12.27 The Grumbleweeds† 12.55 Weather: Programme News.
1.00 The World at One: News.
1.40 The Archers. 1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 News: Woman's Hour. Includes a feature in which Pat Rowe finds out from prisoners' wives about the disruption caused to their lives and the social isolation they have suffered, because their husbands are behind bars. There is also the 18th instalment of Rebecca West's novel The Birds Fall Down.
3.00 Afternoon Theatre: Halt, by Alun Owen. Jane Carr and Russell Dixon play the north London couple whose marriage is foundering. The husband believes everything will be all right if he can return to live in Wales where he spent his boyhood holidays.†
4.00 News; Enquire Within.
4.10 Bookshelf. Radio 4's book programme.
4.40 Story Time: "Futility" by William Gerhardie (4). Read by Roger Rees.
5.00 PM: News Magazine. 5.50 Shipping Forecast. 5.55 Weather; Programme News.
6.00 The Six o'clock News; Financial Report.
6.30 Brain of Britain 1984. General knowledge contest. (3) The Home Counties (r).
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Any Answers?
7.40 Radio News Special Report. "Crisis in the Air" – an inquiry into Britain's airline industry. The reporter is John Hosken.
8.25 Your Move or Mine: Tel 01-580 4411. Bill Breckon and Tom Tickell are joined by experts to answer your questions on mortgages, etc.
8.50 Actuality. The first of a series of 10 montage documentaries. It is about an area of Liverpool in physical decline.
9.45 Kaleidoscope. Arts magazine. Includes comment on Marcella Evaristi's play Checking Out.
10.15 A Book at Bedtime. "I'm Not Complaining" by Ruth Adam (4). Read by Gwen Taylor.
10.30 The World Tonight.
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News. 12.10 Weather. 12.15 Close. Shipping Forecast.
ENGLAND: VHF as above except: 6.25-6.30 Weather. Travel. 1.55-2.00 pm Listening Corner. 5.50-5.55 PM (continued). 11.00 Study on 4: 20th Century European Authors: French. 11.30-12.00 am Open University: 11.30 Maths Foundation Tutorial. 11.50 Music Interlude.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. 7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert: part one. C P E Bach's Sinfonia Wq 183 No 1: Gluck's Che farò (Orfeo ed Euridice: Berganza); Beethoven's Variations on Ich bin der Schneider Kakadu; and Wagner's overture Tannhauser†. 8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert: part two. Stravinsky's Scherzo fantastique; Ravel's Sonatine (Gieseking, piano); and Berwald's Symphony in G minor†. 9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composer: Spohr. Perlman and Zukerman, violins, play the Duo concertante in D, Op 67 No 2; the Vienna Octet members play the Double Quartet in E minor, Op 87†.
10.50 London Saxophone Quartet: Glazunov's Quartet Op 109 and Damase's Saxophone Quartet†.
11.35 Chamber Orchestras of Europe: Academy of Ancient Music and solo instrumentalists perform Handel's Concerto a due cori No 2 in F, his Concerto Grosso Op 6 No 6 and Vivaldi's Concerto Op 8 No 9. After the 12.20 interval, Handel's overture (Berenice) Minuet and Gigue, Vivaldi's Concerto Op 8 No 12 and Handel's Concerto a due cori No 3 in F major†. 1.00 News.
1.05 What the Critics Said: The record reviews of Compton Mackenzie, in the first of John Steane's four programmes.
2.00 Barbe-bleue: Offenbach's three-act opera, sung in French. With Henri Legay in the title role. Jean Doussard conducts the French Radio Chorus and Lyric Orchestra†.
3.30 Nash Ensembles: Trevor Hold's Wind Quartet; Mozart's Oboe Quartet K 370; and Malcolm Lipkin's Clifford's Tower†.
4.25 Spanish Harpsichord Music: recital by Timothy Roberts of works by Antonio de Cabenzon, Francisco Corea de Arauxo, Juan Cabanilles and Jose Ximenez†. 4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure: Another Fritz Spiegl selection of music†.
6.30 Bandstand: New England Colleges Wind Ensemble play works by Robert Kurka and Holst†.
7.10 Kin: Kenneth Haigh and Bernard Gallagher star in Gabriel Josipovici's play about two men who meet in an empty room. But it is far less straightforward than that (r)†.
7.30 Perspectives on Mahler and Strauss: Simon Rattle and the Philharmonia in a concert relayed direct from the Royal Festival Hall. With soloists Janet Baker, Andrew Shulman (cello), John Chambers (viola). Part one. Berg's suite from Lulu: and Mahler's Kindertotenlieder†.
8.30 The Return of Grand Theory: Mark Philp, Fellow of Oriel College, Oxford, gives a talk on Michel Foucault, the French historian of ideas.
8.50 Perspectives on Mahler and Strauss: part two. Strauss's symphonic poem Don Quixote†.
9.45 Music in Our Time: Premieres of Simon Holt's Kites; Mark-Anthony Turnage's Before Dark; and Simon Bainbridge's Concertante in moto perpetuo. Also first broadcasts of Jonathan Lloyd's Three Dances, Robert Saxton's Processions and Dances, and Oliver Knussen's Ophelia Dances. Played by London Sinfonietta†.
11.15 News. Until 11.18. VHF only: Open University. 11.20pm to 12.00.

Radio 2

News on the hour. Major Bulletins: 7.00am, 8.00, 1.00pm 5.00 and 12.00 midnight. Headlines: 5.30, 6.30, 7.30, 8.30am (MF/MW).
4.00am Colin Berry †. 5.30 Ray Moore †. 7.30 Terry Wogan †, incl 8.31 Racing. 10.00 Jimmy Young †. 12.00pm Steve Jones † incl 1.05 Sport. 2.00 Gloria Hunniford † incl 2.02, 3.02 Sport. 3.30 Music All The Way †. 4.00 David Hamilton †, incl 4.02, 5.05 Sport. 6.00 John Dunn †. Incl 6.02 Sport, 6.45 Sport and Classified Results (mf only). 8.00 Wally Whyton †. †. 9.55 Sports Desk. 10.00 The News Huddlines. 10.30 Star Sound Extra. Robert Morley talks about his new film High Road to China, and Peter Noble reports on the Hollywood production scene and the latest film releases. 11.00 Brian Matthew presents Round Midnight (stereo from midnight). 1.00am Charles Nove †. 3.00-4.00 Marching and Waltzing. †

Radio 1

News on the half-hour from 6.30am until 9.30pm and then 12.00 midnight (MF/MW).
6.00am Adrian John. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Gary Davies, incl 12.30 Newsbeat 7.00 David Jensen. 10.00-12.00 John Peel. † VHF Radios 1 and 2: 4.00am With Radio 2. 10.00pm With Radio 1. 12.00-4.00am With Radio 2.

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 Newsdesk. 6.30 Nature Notebook. 6.40 The Farming World. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 7.30 The Cambridge Buskers 7.45 Network UK. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Music For A While. 8.30 John Peel. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead 9.45 Holst And His Circle. 10.15 Monitor 11.00 World News. 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 New Ideas. 11.25 The Week in Wales. 11.30 Assignment. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Top Twenty. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 1.30 Network UK. 1.45 The Pleasure's Yours. 2.30 Discovery 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Assignment. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 5.30 A Jolly Good Show. 9.15 Ulster Newsletter. 9.20 In the Meantime. 9.30 Business Matters. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 The Week in Wales. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary 11.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News About Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 Mourning Becomes Electra 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Ulster Newsletter. 1.50 In the Meantime. 2.00 News. 2.09 Review of British Press. 2.15 A Strolling Player. 2.30 Omnibus. 3.00 News. 3.09 News About Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Business Matters. 4.45 Financial News. 4.55 Reflections. 5.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 5.45 The World Today.

(All times in GMT)

BBC 1 WALES 12.57-1.00 New of Wales. 3.53-3.55 New of Wales. 5.55 (part of Sixty minutes) Wales Today 11.40 News headlines. New of Wales. SCOTLAND 12.55-1.00pm News. 5.55 (Part of Sixty minutes) Scotland: Sixty minutes. 11.40 News headlines. Scottish news. NORTHERN IRELAND 12.57-1.00pm News. 3.53-3.55 News. 5.55 (Part of Sixty minutes) Scene around six. 11.15-12.00am Professional Boxing: (Barry McGuigan v José Caba, and Hugh Russell v José Torres). 12.00-12.25 Computers in control. 12.25 Northern Ireland news. ENGLAND 5.55pm (Part of Sixty Minutes. 11.45 Close.

S4C 2.20 Ffalabalam. 2.35 Egwyl/Interval. 3.00 Make It Count. 3.30 Flashback. 3.55 Cautionary Tales. 4.25 Countdown. 4.50 Guto Goch A Malwen. 5.05 Y Gwylit. 5.30 Wayne and Shuster. 6.00 Brookside. 6.30 Here's Lucy. 7.00 Newyddion Saith. 7.30 Snwcer Merched. 8.00 Coleg news headlines. 8.30 The Heart of the Dragon. 9.30 Eryri. 10.30 Film: The Exterminating Angel. 12.10 Close.

ULSTER As London except: starts 9.25-9.30 The Day Ahead. 10.25 Sport Billy. 10.50 Cartoon Time. 11.05 Laurel and Hardy. 11.30-12.00 3-2-1 Contact. 1.20-1.30 Lunchtime. 3.30 It's A Vet's Life. 3.58-4.00 Ulster News. 5.15-5.45 Silver Spoons. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.20 Police Six. 6.30 Crossroads. 6.55-7.25 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30-11.00 Counterpoint. 12.00 News.

HTV WEST As London except: 10.25 Carving out a Legend. 10.40 Once Upon a Time. 11.10-12.00 Space 1999. 1.20-1.30 HTV News. 3.30-4.00 The Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Survival. 6.00 HTV News. 6.30 Crossroads. 6.55-7.25 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30-11.00 Acker at the Fleece. 12.00 Weather and Closedown.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

SCOTTISH As London except: 10.25 Where do they come from? 10.50 Abigail. 11.00 Asian Insights. 11.30-12.00 A Land, A Man, A God. 1.20-1.30 Scottish News. 2.00-2.30 Sons and Daughters. 3.30-4.00 At Ease. 5.10 Bodyline. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today 6.25 In Loving Memory. 6.55-7.25 Now You See It. 10.30-11.00 Positively Unemployed. 12.00 Late Call. 12.05 Crann Tara. 12.35 Closedown.

BORDER As London except: 10.25 Film: A French Mistress. (James Robertson Justice). 1.20-1.30 Border News. 3.30-4.00 The Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 University Challenge. 6.00 Lookaround Thursday. 6.30 Crossroads. 6.55-7.25 Emmerdale Farm. 12.00 Border news. 12.03 Closedown.

GRANADA As London except: starts 9.25 Atom Ant. 9.30 The World We Live In. 9.55 Kum Kum. 10.20 Father Murphy. 11.05 Target The Impossible. 11.30 Dick Tracy. 11.35-12.00 Oliver Hardy. 12.30-1.00 Paint Along With Nancy. 1.20 Granada Reports. 1.30-2.00 About Britain. 3.30-4.00 The Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00 This Is Your Right. 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30 Granada Reports. 6.55-7.25 Emmerdale Farm. 12.00 Making A Living. 12.30 Closedown.

CHANNEL As London except: 1.20 Channel news. 2.30 Family Trees. 3.00 University Challenge. 5.15 The Beverly Hillbillies. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.20 Crossroads. 6.55 That's My Boy. 10.34 Bosom Buddies. 12.00 Portrait of a Legend (Neil Sedaka). 12.25 News and Weather in French, Closedown.

TSW As London except: 1.25 Film: A French Mistress (James Robertson Justice. 1.20 TSW News Headlines. 2.30 Family Trees. 3.00 University Challenge. 5.15 Gus Honeybun's Magic Birthdays. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Today South West. 6.25 Gardens for all. 6.55-7.25 That's My Boy. 10.34-11.00 Bosom Buddies. 12.00 Portrait of a Legend. (Neil Sedaka) 12.25 Postcript. 12.30 Weather and Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: 9.25 3-2-1 Contact. 9.55 Venture. 10.20 Bracken. 11.10 Land of the Dragon. 11.35-12.00 The New Fred and Barney Show. 12.25 European Folk Tales. 12.45-1.00 Contact. 1.20-1.30 Central News. 2.00-3.30 Film: The Trygon Factor (Stewart Granger). 5.15-5.45 Happy Days. 6.00 Crossroads. 6.25 Central News. 6.55 Emmerdale Farm. 7.25-9.30 Film: In Like Flint (James Coburn). 10.30-11.00 Central Lobby. 12.00 Closedown.

TVS As London except: Starts 9.25-9.30 Farming Brief. 10.25 Father Murphy. 11.20 Matt and Jenny. 11.45-12.00 The Little Rascals. 12.30-1.00 Crown Court. 1.20 TVS News. 1.30 Afternoon Club. 1.35 Food, Wine and Friends. 2.10 Miracles Take Longer. 2.40 Vintage Quiz. 3.10 Newsbreak. 3.20-4.00 Sons and Daughters. 5.15-5.45 Take the High Road. 6.00 Coast to Coast. 6.30 Crossroads. 6.55 Emmerdale Farm. 7.25-9.30 Film: In Like Flint (James Coburn). 10.30 Backchat. 11.00 Showcase. 11.15 The Spanish Civil War. 12.15 Company, Closedown.

HTV WALES As HTV West except: 6.00-7.30 Wales at Six. 10.30-11.00 Wales This Week.

ANGLIA As London except: 10.25 European Folk Tales. 10.40. The Adventurer. 11.05 The Glittering Crowns. 11.55-12.00 Wattoo Wattoo. 1.20-1.30 Anglia News. 5.15 Animals in Action. 5.45-6.00 About Anglia. 6.30 Crossroads. 6.55-7.25 That's My Boy. 10.30-11.00 Indoor Motorcycle Trials. 12.00 House Calls. 12.30 The Big Question, Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As London except: starts 9.25-9.30 Weather. 10.25 A Land, A Man, A God. 10.55 European Folk Tales. 11.05-12.00 Genesis in America. 12.30-1.00 That's Hollywood. 1.20 Calendar News. 1.30-2.00 Calendar Thursday. 5.15-5.45 Happy Days. 6.00 Calendar. 6.30 Crossroads. 6.55-7.25 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30-11.00 The John Briggs Music Show. 12.00 Jazz at the Smithsonian. 12.30 Closedown.

TYNE TEES As London except: starts 9.25-9.30 North East News. 10.25 The Nature of Things. 11.20 Fire of Harmony. 11.45-12.00 Larry the Lamb. 1.20-1.30 North East News. 5.15-5.45 Happy Days. 6.00 North East News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25 Northern Life. 6.55-7.25 Emmerdale Farm. 12.00 Things I Carry With Me.

GRAMPIAN As London except: starts 9.25 First Thing. 10.25 Film: The Fast Lady (James Robertson Justice). 11.55 Halias and Bachelor Cartoon. 1.20 North news. 3.30 The Young Doctors. 5.15 Vintage Quiz. 6.00 North Tonight. 6.20 Police news. 6.25 Crossroads. 6.50 Mr & Mrs 11.30 Crann-Tara. 12.00 The Two of us. 12.30 North Headlines and weather. 12.35 Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN. † Stereo. ★Black and white. (r) Repeat.

…IES: Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/285m or 1089kHz/275m. Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m. Radio 1/2 VHF 88-91MHz. Radio 3 VHF …, MF 1215kHz/247m. Radio 4 LF 200kHz/1500m and VHF 92-95MHz. Greater London Area MF 720kHz/417m. LBC MF 1152kHz/261m, …Hz. Capital MF 1548kHz/194m, VHF 95.8MHz. BBC Radio London MF 1458kHz/206m and VHF 94.9MHz. World Service MF …m.

Entertainments

Women go back to Greenham camps

Continued from page 1

shelters before the bailiffs moved in.

In a clearing on common land owned by Newbury District Council, to the right of the Department of Transport land which was being evicted, women continued to make tea and cook breakfast. Some set fire to their "benders", setting off minor explosions of aerosol cans left inside.

The arrests came as women refused to move off the verge and slip road leading to the main gate, or did not walk quickly enough when asked. Some women complained that they were arrested when they were carrying out police orders to move.

Once the site outside the main gate had been cleared, the police formed a cordon to prevent women returning while a temporary fence was put up to delineate the road works area. The woman gathered on land facing the main gate to light a fire, sing and play music.

Throughout the morning supporters arrived with equipment to help them start again. They included two local residents. Mrs Peg Ridge said: "These women have been our lifeline to sanity." Mrs Lynette Edwell objected to the police refusing her right as a Newbury ratepayer to walk "on my common land".

The peace women have sought legal advice and are convinced that while their shelters can be removed, they cannot themselves be prevented from sleeping on common land.

Mr Tony Benn, Labour MP for Chesterfield, visited the women with Mr Bob Clay, Labour MP for Sunderland North. He said that he had agreed to come to Greenham before he knew about the eviction, and was there to listen to what was being said.

Pointing to the ranks of police guarding the road, Mr Benn said: "It connects directly with what is happening in the mining areas. We are now seeing police action on such a scale that people can't move about the country."

● A group set up a few weeks ago to compaign for the removal of the peace camps was "delighted" by the eviction.

"But what we want is the total removal of the women from the common permanently", Mr John Learoyd, a Newbury shopkeeper and spokesman for Ratepayers against the Greenham encampments, said.





Mr Nicholas Blandy (above), Under Sherriff of Berkshire, yesterday surveying the remains of the main peace camp at Greenham Common, which was cleared (below) by baliffs and police. Some women set their makeshift shelters on fire as a protest.

Mondale faces a fight all the way for nomination

Continued from page 1

Mr Mondale's best hope is that another big win in Pennsylvania will slow Senator Hart's momentum to such an extent that voters who are at present leaning towards the Colorado Senator in these races will realize he is a lost cause and either back the former vice-preisent or not vote at all.

As for Senator Hart, it must now be clear that he has no hope of winning the nomination before the convention. His best tactic must be to build up as large a delegate total as he can and then try to win over the large number of uncommitted delegates and supporters of the Rev Jesse Jackson at the convention itself.

This means the San Francisco convention could turn into a huge horse-trading session, in which the nomination would be up for grabs by either of the two front-runners or even conceivably by a compromise candidate who could be drafted by delegates who are neither happy with Mr Mondale nor Senator Hart.

The name of Senator Edward Kennedy has repeatedly been mentioned, although last week he insisted that he would not be drafted for either the presidency or the vice-presidency.

The convention proceedings could be further complicated by the fact that under new party rules none of the delegates will be formally bound to vote for their original presidentail prefernce on the first convention ballot. Mondale on target, page 6
Leading article, page 15

Left allege plot over pit debate

Continued from page 1

try and the police that cannot long be delayed.

Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, again raised the prospect of coal *mining being eventually* denationalized.

He said at a press gallery lunch in the Commons that there would have been no mining dispute now if the industry had been denationalized 10 or 20 years ago.

He said: "I fancy there would have been cheaper coal, cheaper power and better paid miners with a more effecient economy. It is a thought for the furure".

Mr Gerald Kaufman, the Shadow Home Secretary, invited Labour MPs at a party meeting to supply his with examples of police violence on the picket lines. Some of them have accused the police of violence.

Mr Kaufman said he would pass on the compaints to the Chief Constable of Nottinghamshire, whom be will meet on Saturday.

Rail blacking, page 2

Letter from Bonn

Wanderlust spirit of 26m Germans

If you come across pioneer tourists in the darkest corners of Africa, on the shores of remote islands, or in fully equipped mobile homes halfway up a mountain, they are likely to be Germans, for Germans are the world's greatest globe-trotters, and many a fashionable resort owes its existence almost entirely to the Teutonic wanderlust.

Last year more than 26 million German tourists set off on holiday, with 16 million going abroad – a higher proportion than anywhere else in the world, if you exclude such quirks as Monaco and Kuwait. The summer holiday abroad is as sacrosanct as the car and one of the last things to be sacrificed even in straitened times. Though in 1983 the amount of money German tourists spent abroad fell – by 2.6 per cent – for the first time since 1962, it still remained a formidable amount: DM 38,400m (£10,130m).

Where do they all go? Principally, of course, south to the sun, to Italy, Austria, Spain, Turkey and Yugoslavia, where the natives will now naturally write their menus in German and wish you *Guten Morgen* unless corrected. Favourite destinations are unchanged, with Italy coming first in absolute terms (Germans accounting for 43 per cent of all tourists) and Austria the runner-up (where Germans make up 70 per cent of tourists). The British still have the lead in Spain, Portugal and Greece, but the Germans are the biggest group in Turkey, Yugoslavia and Switzerland.

There are changes from year to year, depending on fashion, the strength of the ever-welcome Mark and the weather. Last year's heatwave seemed to make the prospect of a trip northwards less daunting, and Britain, Holland and Denmark attracted more Germans than the year before.

But Eastern Europe – excluding, of course, East Germany – paid the price for its poor facilities and disorganization: the pioneers have moved on to the new "in" places in Africa and Asia, and the pensioners have been put off by horror stories of low-cost holidays in Romania and Bulgaria.

Germans are remarkably independent holidaymakers. Most travel by car and 70 per cent set off on their own, making their own arrangements – though the tendency to congregate in established colonies in Europe's camping sites suggests the gregarious instinct, or at least the preference for a clean and tidy environment, is not altogether conquered.

But the travel industry is still very big business in Germany. Newspapers regularly run fat travel supplements, and the big chain stores watch every fluctuation in the holiday market with close attention, as it makes a difference of several million marks to their turnover.

Today's version of the German hiking instinct is responsible for the vast acreage of canvas villas, the ever more sophisticated palaces on wheels with their "D" plates, *that adorn Europe's camping sites.*

On the whole, Germans do not stint themselves when abroad. The average holidaymaker spent 18.2 days abroad, cashing DM 71.80 a day. Most money, statistically speaking, is spent by German visitors to Scandinavia, who tend to be young, single and female. Those going to Yugoslavia, by contrast, are mostly young and male; those to Denmark families or groups; and those to Austria older, regular visitors.

For those who stay at home, Bavaria is the biggest draw. But the rest of Germany, a country much underrated both by its own citizens and foreigners, is equally striking and worth visiting. Those foreigners who do – far fewer than the number of Germans going abroad – are mainly the Dutch, constituting 21 per cent of Germany's visitors.

Russian nobility no longer go to Baden-Baden, and perhaps today's equivalent, where the smart and the chic gather to see each other and be seen, is the long, thin island of Sylt, off the Danish coast. It is only on the beaches here that Germany still has an intellectual centre, where you will find the stars of screen and stage in a state of mental and physical undress, while the bulk of their *compatriots* are revealing all flesh to the sun 1,000 mile farther south.

Michael Binyon

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother opens the Leukaemia Research Laboratories at University College Hospital, 3.45

The Princess of Wales visits the Burslem Factory of Royal Doulton Tableware Ltd at Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, 12.10.

Princess Margaret undertakes engagements in Canvey Island, Essex, arrives 12.45.

The Duke of Kent, president of the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, attends the club dinner at the Institute of Directors, Pall Mall, SW1, 7.50.

New Exhibitions

Action Portraits, photographs by Scottish newspaper photographers, Collins Gallery, Univ of Strathclyde, 22 Richman Street, Glasgow; Mon to Fri 10 to 5, Sat 12 to 4, closed Sun (until April 26).

Paintings and drawings by Anne Carlisle, Arts Council Gallery, Bedford St, Belfast; Tues to Sat 10 to 6 closed Sun and Mon (until April 28).

75 Years of Ornithology in Wales, National Museum of Wales, Cathays Park, Cardiff; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2.30 to 5 (until April 8).

Exhibitions in progress

Highlands and Islands – recent works by Jim Nicholson; Gladstone's Lane Gallery, Lawnmarket, Edinburgh; Mon to Sat 10 to 4.30, Sun 2 to 4.30 (until April 22).

Drawing and Sculpture – Gaudier-Brzeska, Mercury Gallery, 2/3 North Bank St, The Mound, Edinburgh; Mon to Fri 10 to 5.30, Sat 10 to 1, closed Sun (until April 28).

Drawings and prints by Rembrandt and Seurat, National Gallery of Scotland, The Mound, Edinburgh, Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (ends April 29).

Treasures of the National Library, National Library of Scotland, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh; Mon to Fri 7.30 to 5, Sat 9.30 to 1 closed Sun (until May 31).

Work on the folklore and folksong of the Western Isles, John L. Campbell, Margaret Fay Shaw and Frances Collinson; National Library of Scotland, The Mound, Edinburgh; Mon to Fri 7.30 to 5, Sat 9.30 to 1 closed Sun (until May 31).

Work, People, Music; works by Dominic Snyder and Simon Burder and Mary Louise Colouris, Glasgow Print Studio Gallery, 128 Ingram St; Mon to Fri 9.30 to 6, Sat 10.30 to 4 closed Sun (until May 30).

Glasgow School of Art, Design '84, Art Gallery and Museum, Kelvingrove, Glasgow; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (until June 20).

Drawings by Blair Adams, Hunterian Art Gallery, Univ of Glasgow, Mon to Fri, 10 to 5, Sat 9.30 to 1, closed Sun (ends April 14).

Five from Saskatchewan organized by the Saskatchewan Art Board and the Canada House Cultural Centre, Macroberts Art Centre Gallery, Univ of Stirling; Mon to Sat 11 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (until April 29).

Scottish Pottery, an exhibition of 19th and 20th century pottery from a number of well-known Scottish potteries, Baird Institute Museum, Lugar St, Cumnock, Strathclyde; Tues to Fri 1.30 to 4, Sat 10.30 to 12 closed Sun (until April 14).

Music

Concert by Ulster Orchestra, Guildhall, Londonderry.

Concert by South Yorkshire Male Voice Choir and Band, Sheffield Cathedral, Church St, 7.30.

Concert by BBC Symphony Orchestra, The Hexagon, Queens Walk, Reading, 7.30.

General

The British International Antiques Fair, National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, 11 to 9 Mon to Sat, to 6 Sun (until April 11).

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,397

ACROSS

1 Raison d'etre for 28 (6,4,3).
9 Rambling tale of a grim eccentric character (9).
10 Asian citizen's contribution to British industry (5).
11 Controls extra-mural provision for London prisoners once (5).
12 In game like bridge, an unsuitable small slam? (4).
13 Flower show (4).
15 Conservative conference mainly uncompromising (7).
17 Lawrence play to join in with one composer (7).
18 He has to take care here in London (4,3).
20 One serving Queen fish, apparently (7).
21 Cunning needed in bridge (4).
22 Sailor, you see, reported back to island (4).
23 No beefeater gave injury to raven's tail (5).
26 Remove all traces of arsenic before swallowing it (5).
27 It may depend on the landlord's latitude, however (5,4).
28 Savant writing about "essence d'art", perhaps (4,9).

DOWN

1 Sheet with bulletin, so to speak? (9,5).
2 Author turns fifty (5).
3 Put in other words, or changed – see? (10).
4 Point to fifth volume editor opened out (7).
5 Ruth, for one, appears changed in general (7).
6 Announcement of discovery in London (4).
7 Art school's idiosyncracy (9).
8 Press backers taking special care? (8,6).
14 Birmingham players needed, as full quartet not turning up (5,5).
16 Support for one behind professorial sinecure? (4,5).
19 Increased – nothing less than odd, literally (7).
20 Saint is not above a bit of money (7).
24 Endless treachery – 18 wrongdoers' remorse (5).
25 Jack, though poor, wasn't without this (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,396

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 10

New books – paperback

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:

A Withered Nosegay, Three Cod Pieces, by Noel Coward (Methuen, £2.95)
America's Children, a novel, by James Thackara (Chatto & Windus, £4.50)
Man of Straw, by Heinrich Mann (Penguin, £2.95)
Modern Short Stories to 1940, selected and introduced by John Hadfield (Dent, £1.95)
Pasternak, selected poems, translated from the Russian by Jon Stallworthy and Peter France (Penguin, £2.50)
Poetry of the Passion, Studies in twelve centuries of English verse, by J. A. W. Bennett (Oxford, £7.50)
Sailing Alone Around the World, by Joshua Slocum, introduction by Arthur Ransome (Century, £4.95)
Swann's Way, by Marcel Proust, translated by C. K. Scott Moncrieff and Terence Kilmartin (Penguin, £3.95)
The Bird of Dawning, by John Masefield (Century, £4.95)
The Radetzky March, by Joseph Roth, translated by Eva Tucker (Penguin, £2.95)

PH

The papers

The Daily Mirror says that "the Greenham women's peace camp was effectively destroyed by the bailiffs and police yesterday. But it remains the most famous protest in the world. We never accepted the women's case. But their sincerity and courage stood out. They were not sluts or harridans as the *Daily Express*, for one, viciously described them". The paper concludes: "If people don't like what their government is doing they have a right to protest. The Greenham women used that right.

The Washington Post criticizes President Reagan's plan for a space-based defence against nuclear attack saying that "If you believe in miracles, you may wish to consider supporting the President's five-year $18b to $27b research programme, otherwise, you will want ot take it easy".

The Sun says Mr Norman Tebbit, the Secretary of State for Industry, "would love to sell off profitable coalfields once the pit strike is over. Why not ? After all, Mr Tebbit says, the strike would never have happened if the industry had been denationalized years ago. Of course, Labour and the NUM militants will scream that a State-owned coal industry is part of their holy writ. In fact, there is no reason why Britain's coal fields – in enterprising hands – should not make a bomb for the private company and the miners. The taxpayer, too, would gain because there would be no need for any more of those huge subsidies. Best of all, Arthur Scargill would be written out of the script for ever.

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.59	1.51
Austria Sch	27.50	25.90
Belgium Fr	82.00	78.00
Canada $	1.88	1.81
Denmark Kr	14.30	13.60
Finland Mkk	8.32	7.92
France Fr	11.86	11.36
Germany DM	3.86	3.68
Greece Dr	160.00	150.00
Hongkong $	11.52	10.92
Ireland Pt	1.26	1.20
Italy Lira	2385.00	2285.00
Japan Yen	334.00	318.00
Netherlands Gld	4.38	4.16
Norway Kr	11.28	10.68
Portugal Esc	195.00	185.00
South Africa Rd	1.96	1.82
Spain Pta	218.00	207.00
Sweden Kr	11.56	10.98
Switzerland Fr	3.21	3.04
USA $	1.47	1.42
Yugoslavia Dnr	183.00	173.00

Retail Price Index: 344

London. The *FT* Index closed down 1.4 at 857.8.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): London Regional Transport Bill, further progress on report stage.

Lords (3): Housing and Building Control Bill, third reading. Debate on fixed date for Easter.

Bond winner

The winning number of this month's £250,000 Premium Bond prize is 8AB 861049. The winner lives on the Isle of Man.

Roads

Midlands: M1: Junctions 16 (Northampton) and 18 (Rugby), contraflow. A47: (Norfolk) Norwich – Yarmouth at Post wick, delays. A34: (Warwickshire) Guild St, Stratford, delay possible.

North: A689: Between Newton Bewley and Caxton Bank, Cleveland, improvement work. A635: Wilthorpe, Gawber, Barnsley, drainage reconstruction single lane, temporary lights, also subsidence. *A56: Washway Rd in Sale*, sewer work and single lane traffic diversions signposted.

Wales and West: M5: North bound access slip closed between junctions 16 and 17, diversions operate via A38. Junction 16, hard shoulder and lane closed due to carriageway reconstruction, delays during the holiday period. A38: (Devon) A38 between Plymouth and Ivybridge. Lane closures at Marsh Mills. A438: (Gloucester) Tewkesbury from Elmbury County secondary school to Oldfield, temporary lights, major resurfacing.

Scotland: A74: (Lanarkshire) carriageway improvements at Beattock summit, northbound carriageway closed, two-way traffic on the southbound. M8: (Glasgow) barrier erection just west of junction 5, outside lanes closed on both carriageways. M74: Improvements to central reservation crossing, outside lanes closed both carriageways to the south side of junction 2.

Information supplied by the AA

Clan gathering

The Clan Gregor in Scotland invites all MacGregors to the first reunion of the clan. It will be held between August 29 and September 3. Reservations must be made by the end of April. Details from Gathering Office, Clan Gregor Society, 14 Lockharton Avenue, Edinburgh EH14 1AZ Scotland. Tel: (031) 443 4969.

Anniversaries

Births: **Thomas Hobbes**, philosopher, author of *Leviathan*, Westport, Wiltshire, 1588; **William, 1st Viscount Brouncker**, first president of the Royal Society, London, 1684; **Jean Honoré Fragonard**, painter, Grasse, France, 1732; **Joseph, 1st Baron Lister**, surgeon and pioneer of antisepsis, Upton, Essex, 1827; **Algernon Charles Swinburne**, London, 1837.

Deaths: **Georges Danton**, guillotined, Paris, 1794; **Robert Raikes**, founder of Sunday schools, Gloucester, 1811.

Weather forecast

A trough of low pressure over W parts will move slowly E while weakening.

6am to midnight

London, SE, NW, cen S, cen N England, Midlands, Channel Islands, N Wales, Isle of Man: Dry, sunny intervals, wind variable light; max temp 8C (46F).

East Anglia, E, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Orkney, Shetland: Rather cloudy, a few showers, wind variable or N light or moderate; max temp 7C (45F).

SW England, S Wales, N Ireland: Cloudy, outbreaks of rain dying out, brighter later, wind variable light becoming NW moderate; max temp 10C (50F).

SW, NW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll: Cloudy, rain in places, wind variable light becoming NW moderate; max temp 8C (46F).

Cen Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland: Rather cloudy, perhaps rain in places later, wind variable light; max temp 7C (45F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Saturday: Dry with sunny intervals, rather cold at first becoming near normal, frost and fog patches overnight.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea: Wind N moderate or fresh, rain or sleet later in E, visibility moderate or good, sea slight or moderate. Straits of Dover: Wind variable light becoming moderate N, fair: visibility moderate or good, sea slight. English Channel (E): Wind light variable, mainly fair, visibility moderate, sea slight. St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind light variable, rain at times, visibility moderate with fog patches, sea slight.

Sun rises: 6.27 am Sun sets: 7.41 pm

Moon rises: 8.09 am Moon sets: 12.21 am tomorrow

First Quarter: April 9.

Lighting-up time

London 8.11 pm to 5.55 am
Bristol 8.21 pm to 6.04 am
Edinburgh 8.30 pm to 6.00 am
Manchester 8.22 pm to 6.00 am
Penzance 8.31 pm to 6.18 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; dr, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	c	6	43	Guernsey	r	4	39
Birmingham	f	8	46	Inverness	s	10	50
Blackpool	f	9	48	Jersey	dr	3	37
Bristol	r	6	43	London	s	9	48
Cardiff	c	5	41	Manchester	f	8	46
Edinburgh	f	8	46	Newcastle	s	6	43
Glasgow	f	9	48	Ronaldsway	c	6	43

Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Isles of Scilly 13C 55F; lowest day max: Guernsey 5C 41F; highest rainfall: Penzance 0.96in; highest sunshine: Hastings 11.0 hrs.

London

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 10C (50F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 3C (37F). Humidity: 6 pm, 56 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.0in. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, 10.4hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1010.6 millibars, rising.





b-blue sky; bc-blue sky and cloud; c-cloudy; o-overcast; f-fog; d-drizzle; h-hail; m-mist; r-rain; s-snow; th-thunderstorm; p-showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled, temperatures fahrenheit.

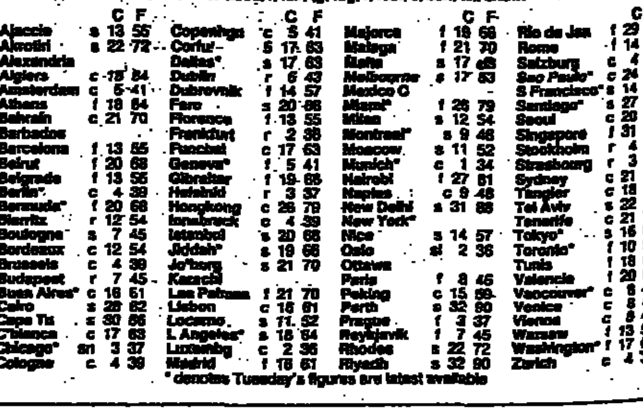
High tides

TODAY

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	4.53	7.0	5.16	7.0
Aberdeen	4.22	3.9	4.29	4.0
Avonmouth	10.19	12.5	10.31	12.5
Belfast	2.02	3.1	2.14	3.1
Cardiff	10.04	11.6	10.16	11.4
Devonport	8.42	5.2	8.55	5.1
Dover	1.43	6.3	2.00	6.2
Falmouth	8.12	5.0	8.25	4.9
Glasgow	3.57	4.6	4.17	4.7
Harwich	2.43	3.9	3.07	3.8
Holyhead	1.11	5.3	1.29	5.3
Hull	9.26	7.0	9.40	7.0
Ilfracombe	9.04	7.0	9.40	7.0
Leith	5.42	5.1	5.52	5.3
Liverpool	2.06	8.9	2.23	9.0
Lowestoft	12.20	2.4	12.51	2.2
Margate	2.51	4.7	3.15	4.5
Milford Haven	9.19	6.7	9.32	6.6
Newquay	8.10	6.7	8.24	6.6
Oban	8.44	3.5	8.48	3.7
Penzance	7.44	5.3	7.58	5.2
Portland	9.59	1.9	10.11	1.8
Portsmouth	2.25	4.4	2.43	4.3
Shoreham	1.58	5.9	2.15	5.8
Southampton	1.48	4.4	2.01	4.3
Swansea	9.25	9.1	9.34	9.0
Tees	6.44	5.0	6.56	5.1
Walton-on-Naze	2.37	4.1	2.59	4.1

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Abroad

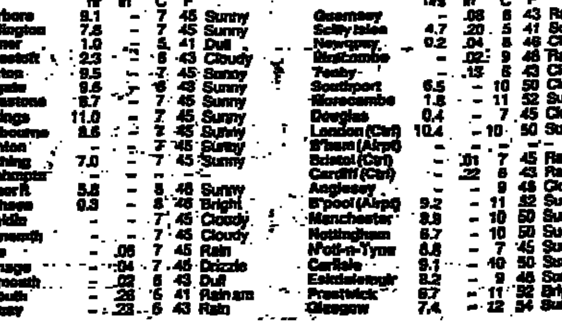


MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	s	13	55	Copenhgn	c	5	41	Majorca	f	18	66	Rio de Jan	f	29	84
Akrotiri	s	22	72	Corfu	s	17	63	Malaga	f	21	70	Rome	f	14	57
Alexandria				Dallas*	s	17	63	Malta	s	17	63	Salzburg	c	4	39
Algiers	c	19	84	Dublin	r	6	43	Melbourne	s	17	63	Sao Paulo*	c	24	75
Amsterdam	c	5	41	Dubrovnik	f	14	57	Mexico C			–	S Francisco*	s	14	57
Athens	f	18	64	Faro	s	20	68	Miami*	f	26	79	Santiago*	s	27	81
Bahrain	c	21	70	Florence	f	13	55	Milan	s	12	54	Seoul	c	20	68
Barbados				Frankfurt	r	2	36	Montreal*	s	9	48	Singapore	f	31	88
Barcelona	f	13	55	Funchal	c	17	63	Moscow	s	11	52	Stockholm	r	4	39
Beirut	f	20	68	Geneva*	f	5	41	Munich*	c	1	34	Strasbourg	r	3	37
Belgrade	f	13	55	Gibraltar	f	19	66	Nairobi	f	27	81	Sydney	c	21	70
Berlin*	c	4	39	Helsinki	r	3	37	Naples	c	9	48	Tangier	c	18	64
Bermuda*	f	20	68	Hongkong	c	26	79	New Delhi	s	31	88	Tel Aviv	s	22	72
Biarritz	r	12	54	Innsbruck	c	4	39	New York*				Tenerife	c	21	70
Boulogne	s	7	45	Istanbul	s	20	68	Nice	s	14	57	Tokyo*	s	16	61
Bordeaux	c	12	54	Jiddah*	s	19	66	Oslo	sl	2	36	Toronto*	f	10	50
Brussels	c	4	39	Jo'burg	s	21	70	Ottawa				Tunis	f	18	64
Budapest	r	7	45	Karachi				Paris	f	8	46	Valencia	f	20	68
Buen Aires*	c	16	61	Las Palmas	f	21	70	Peking	c	15	59	Vancouver*	c	8	46
Cairo	s	28	82	Lisbon	c	16	61	Perth	s	32	90	Venice	c	8	46
Cape Tn	s	30	86	Locarno	s	11	52	Prague	f	3	37	Vienna	c	6	43
C'blanca	c	17	63	L Angeles*	s	18	64	Reykjavik	f	7	45	Warsaw	f	13	55
Chicago*	sn	3	37	Luxembg	c	2	36	Rhodes	s	22	72	Washington*	f	17	63
Cologne	c	4	39	Madrid	f	16	61	Riyadh	s	32	90	Zurich	c	4	39

* denotes Tuesday's figures are latest available

Around Britain



	Sun hr	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarboro	9.1	–	7	45	Sunny	Guernsey	–	.08	6	43	Rain
Bridlington	7.8	–	7	45	Sunny	Scilly Isles	4.7	.20	5	41	Sunny
Cromer	1.0	–	5	41	Dull	Newquay	0.2	.04	8	46	Cloudy
Lowestoft	2.3	–	6	43	Cloudy	Ilfracombe	–	.02	9	48	Rain
Clacton	9.5	–	7	45	Sunny	Tenby	–	.13	6	43	Cloudy
Margate	9.6	–	6	43	Sunny	Southport	6.5	–	10	50	Cloudy
Folkestone	8.7	–	7	45	Sunny	Morecambe	1.8	–	11	52	Sunny
Hastings	11.0	–	7	45	Sunny	Douglas	0.4	–	7	45	Cloudy pm
Eastbourne	8.6	–	7	45	Sunny	London (Ctrl)	10.4	–	10	50	Sunny
Brighton	–	–	7	45	Sunny	B'ham (Airpt)	–	–	–	–	
Worthing	7.0	–	7	45	Sunny	Bristol (Ctrl)	–	.01	7	45	Rain
Littlehampton	–	–	–	–		Cardiff (Ctrl)	–	.22	6	43	Rain
Bognor R	5.8	–	9	48	Sunny	Anglesey	–	–	9	48	Cloudy
Southsea	0.3	–	8	46	Bright	B'pool (Airpt)	9.2	–	11	52	Sunny
Shanklin	–	–	7	45	Cloudy	Manchester	8.8	–	10	50	Sunny
Bournemouth	–	–	7	45	Cloudy	Nottingham	6.7	–	10	50	Sunny
Poole	–	.06	7	45	Rain	N'cstl-n-Tyne	6.8	–	7	45	Sunny
Swanage	–	.04	7	45	Drizzle	Carlisle	9.1	–	10	50	Sunny
Weymouth	–	.02	6	43	Dull	Eskdalemuir	8.2	–	9	48	Sunny
Exmouth	–	.28	5	41	Rain am	Prestwick	6.7	–	11	52	Bright
Torquay	–	.23	6	43	Rain	Glasgow	7.4	–	12	54	Sunny